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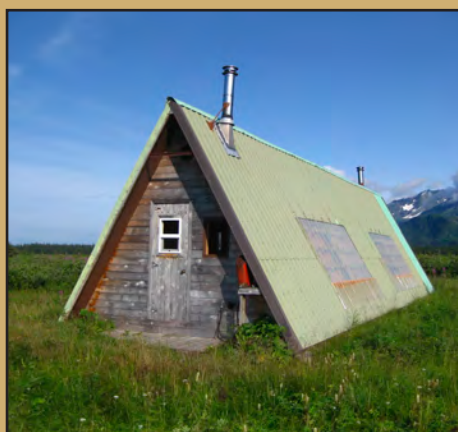
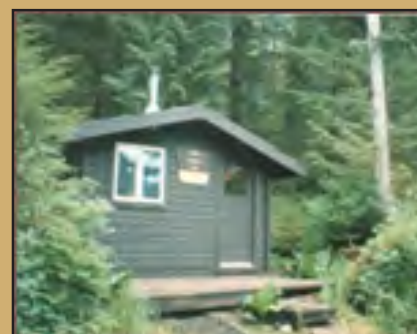
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September 2012



# Everyone's Cabin in the Woods:

Historic Context for Public Recreation  
Cabins in the Alaska Region 1960 - 1971

K. Nicole Lantz





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Alaska Region 1960 - 1971\*

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\*Based on original report written in 2010.



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## **Purpose and Scope**

### ***Introduction***

From 1960-1971, the Forest Service in the Alaska Region expanded a program of public recreation cabins on the Tongass and the Chugach National Forests. In cooperation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and local volunteer organizations at least 91 cabins were constructed during those eleven years. They were buildings constructed simply to provide the public access to hunting, fishing and other recreational opportunities over the vast and remote areas of forest lands in Alaska. In contrast to the rustic architecture used by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s, where large timbers and logs from the local environments were crafted to create a frontier aesthetic, modern materials and prefabricated structures were used. Not built to last, these cabins are now in need of repair and replacement.

Historic properties, as defined by National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), are “any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion on the National Register” (16 U.S.C. Section 470(w)(5)). In order for a property to be determined eligible it must be evaluated against a set of criteria established by the National Park Service; keepers of the National Register of Historic Places.

As a federal agency, the Forest Service is required by the NHPA to inventory and evaluate their lands for historic properties. Generally, properties at least 50 years old are given consideration as potential historic properties. At the time of this writing in 2009, the oldest recreational cabins remaining from the 1960s era of cabin construction are 49 years old. These potentially historic properties are in need of a historic context in which they can be evaluated. Because these properties are just shy of being 50 years old, they have not been consistently reviewed as historic properties. However, the National Register eligibility evaluation process does consider properties less than 50 years old. Historic context is particularly important when evaluating young properties.

A historic context establishes the framework upon which a pattern of developments occurred in history. The history of “developed recreation” within the Forest Service is

presented as the framework in which the public recreation cabins were constructed in the Alaska Region. *Developed recreation* within the Forest Service refers to those areas designed and constructed to provide convenience to visitors and employees. With this historic context, background research for NHPA Section 106 reviews of Alaska Region recreation cabins can be streamlined. The target audience for this report is Forest Service heritage specialists.

The Alaska Region of the Forest Service consists of the Chugach and the Tongass National Forests. These two unique and expansive National Forests encompass 21,969,321 acres of forests, shoreline, glaciers, ice fields, tundra and mountain peaks. The Alaska Region provides a broad range of recreation opportunities where a visitor will inevitably face inclement weather. Shelter is, at times, much appreciated. There are currently 206 cabins available for nightly rentals to the public. Cabins are available to rent through the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) an Internet-based reservation service. Public recreation cabins are maintained at the district level throughout the Alaska Region. They are most often located in remote locations on saltwater beaches, inland lakes, rivers and glacial forelands and have become an integral part of recreation for residents and visitors in Alaska.

Following the 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps era of three-sided shelter and cabin construction, a lesser known era of plywood structures known as Dingell-Johnson cabins were constructed in the 1950s. This was followed by what we know today as the recreation cabins program. The current program arose in the 1960s encompassing those earlier cabins and building new ones. At that time, two main cabin property types were constructed; the A-frame and the Pan Abode. Another type known as Hunter or Wood Frame was used less frequently. As the cabins program became established, a few historic cabins not constructed by the Forest Service were incorporated into the reservation system. This document focuses on the A-frame and Pan Abode.

Evaluation and documentation of Forest Service public recreation cabins, prior to replacement or decommissioning, has occurred sporadically. In one instance, an assessment of ineligibility was met with a request for more information by the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). In a letter dated July 18, 2007 the SHPO stated that "resources nearing the 50 year mark do not need to meet Criteria Consideration G." This decision was in reference to the A-frame building type. SHPO suggested the Forest Service explore further "the history of this building type." In response to this, the Forest Service proposed that the cabins program history, as a whole, should be further explored. This document is a result of that exploration.



## **Research Methodology**

This study was based on primary and secondary resources, personal interviews and archival information within Forest Service regional and district offices. Journal articles cited in *The United States Forest Service: a Historical Bibliography, 1876-1972* by Gerald Ogden were useful. Two important sources for Forest Service administrative history include *History of the United States Forest Service in Alaska* by Lawrence Rakestraw (2002) and *A History of Outdoor Recreation Development in National Forests, 1891-1942* by W.C. Weed (1978).

Research was limited to cabins presently in the Forest Service reservation system in the Alaska Region. A *cabin* is defined as a completely enclosed structure with a roof and a door intended for remote recreational activities. In order to limit the scope, three-sided shelters and structures associated with cabins were not included. These associated structures include outhouses, wood sheds, meat sheds, etc.

Cabin construction dates were taken from the Forest Service facilities infrastructure database (Infra). Often, the construction dates in the Infra database are inaccurate. When the database was populated a date was sometimes estimated and entered for the date of construction. For many cabins, the “remarks” category of Infra notes when cabins were replaced or moved.

The author worked out of the Forest Service Regional Office in Juneau. Travel was limited to a trip to Anchorage in May of 2009 for three days of research on the Chugach National Forest. While there, the files at the Supervisors office, Glacier Ranger District office and the Seward Ranger District office at the Kenai Lake Work Center were reviewed. Cordova Ranger District was not visited. The Yakutat Ranger District office was visited August 11, 2009 en route to a site visit to the Tanis Mesa duplex A-frame cabin in the Yakutat Forelands. One site visit was also made to the Turner Lake East and West Cabins on the Juneau Ranger District.

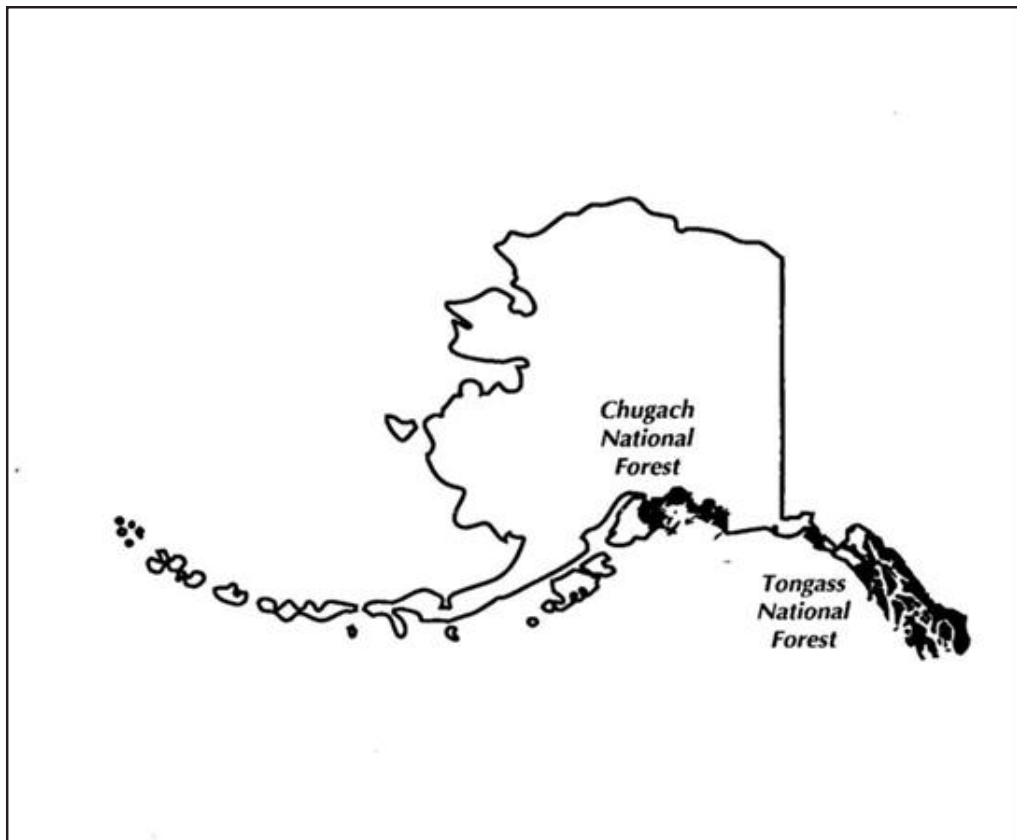


Figure 1. Overview of the Alaska Region.

## ***Administrative Boundaries***

### **The Alaska Region: Region 10 of the Forest Service**

Under the Department of Agriculture, the Forest Service is divided into nine Regions.<sup>1</sup> The Alaska Region is classified as Region 10 and is contained entirely within the State of Alaska (Figure 1).

National Forest System lands in Alaska total 21,969,321 acres. Two National Forests make up the Alaska Region, the Chugach National Forest and the Tongass National Forest. They are the two largest National Forests within the National Forest System. Only public recreation cabins administered by these two forests were considered. All references to ranger districts and their cabins reflect current administrative boundaries.

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<sup>1</sup> There were ten regions of the Forest Service until 1965 when Region 7 was eliminated and its forests divided among Regions 8 and 9.

## **Chugach National Forest**

Located in South-Central Alaska, The Chugach National Forest is the second largest forest in the National Forest System. The Forest includes geographic areas of the Kenai Peninsula, Prince William Sound and the Copper River Delta which are subdivided into three administrative units: the Glacier (GRD), Seward (SRD) and Cordova (CRD) ranger districts (Figure 2). Communities located within or near the national forest include Whittier, Hope, Seward, Cooper Landing, Moose Pass, Tatitlek, Chenega Bay, Cordova, Anchorage, Valdez, Sterling, Kenai and Soldotna. Ranger District offices are located in Girdwood, Seward and Cordova.

Relatively few miles of roads exist in relation to the amount of land acres. There are 5,491,580 acres of land on the Chugach National Forest. Within the Forest, there are 97 miles of forest developed roads; approximately 71 miles located on the Seward and Glacier Ranger Districts and 26 on the Cordova Ranger District. In addition, there are 75 miles of forest highways, including the Hope Highway and the Copper River Highway, and 100 miles of State highways, including the Seward and Sterling highways within the Forest. Both State and forest highways are under State jurisdiction. The greatest road density is on the Kenai Peninsula.

The Kenai Peninsula geographic area of the Chugach National Forest is accessible by road from Anchorage and accommodates high levels of human use. The Seward, Sterling and Portage highways contain developed recreation sites and provide access points for a variety of dispersed recreational activities. This area is managed by the Seward Ranger District.

The Prince William Sound geographic area is managed primarily to maintain the wild character of this area and its unique wildlife. Human access is almost exclusively by boat or aircraft, with the exception of the road-accessed portals of Whittier and Valdez. Much of the area is established as a Wilderness study area and is managed by the Glacier Ranger District.

The Copper River Delta lands of the Chugach National Forest are managed primarily for the conservation of fish and wildlife. Cordova is the population center in this area and has one road corridor extending west from Cordova to Child's Glacier. This area is managed by the Cordova Ranger District (USDA 2002).

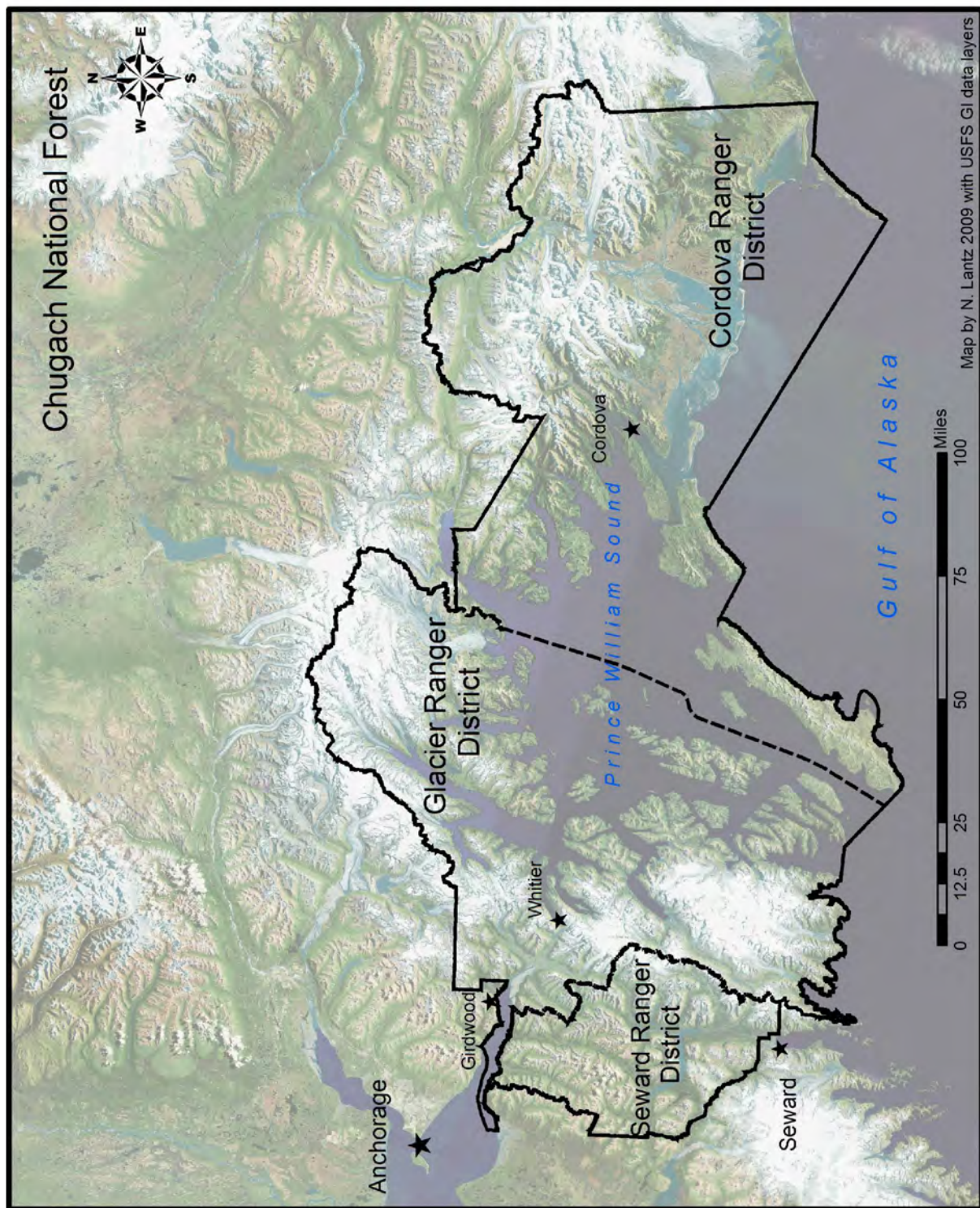


Figure 2. Chugach National Forest.



### **Tongass National Forest**

The Tongass National Forest (Figure 3) is located in Southeast Alaska and extends from Dixon Entrance in the south to Yakutat in the north; it is bordered on the east by Canada and on the west by the Gulf of Alaska. The Tongass National Forest extends approximately 500 miles north to south, broken only by Glacier Bay National Park. From east to west it spans approximately 120 miles at its widest point.

The 16.8-million acre Tongass National Forest occupies about seven percent of the area of Alaska. Federal lands comprise about 95 percent of Southeast Alaska, with about 80 percent in the Tongass National Forest (and most of the rest in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve). The remaining land is held in State, municipal, Alaska tribal and corporation, and other private ownerships.

The Tongass includes a narrow mainland strip of steep, rugged mountains and ice fields, and more than 1,000 offshore islands known as the Alexander Archipelago. Together, the islands and mainland have nearly 11,000 miles of meandering shoreline, with numerous bays and coves. A system of seaways separates the many islands and provides a protected waterway called the Inside Passage. Also included in the Tongass is the distinctly younger and less understood geological area of the Yakutat forelands.

Most of the area of the Tongass is wild and undeveloped. Approximately 73,000 people inhabit Southeast Alaska, most living in 32 communities located on island or mainland coasts. Only 8 of the communities have populations greater than 1,000 persons. Most of these communities are surrounded by, or adjacent to, National Forest System land. Three towns are connected to other parts of the mainland by road: Haines and Skagway to the north and Hyder to the south. The Tongass is divided into 10 Ranger Districts (Figure 3) with offices located in Yakutat, Juneau, Hoonah, Sitka, Petersburg, Wrangell, Thorne Bay, Craig and Ketchikan. There are also two National Monuments (Admiralty Island and Misty Fiords) with offices in Juneau and Ketchikan (USDA 2003).

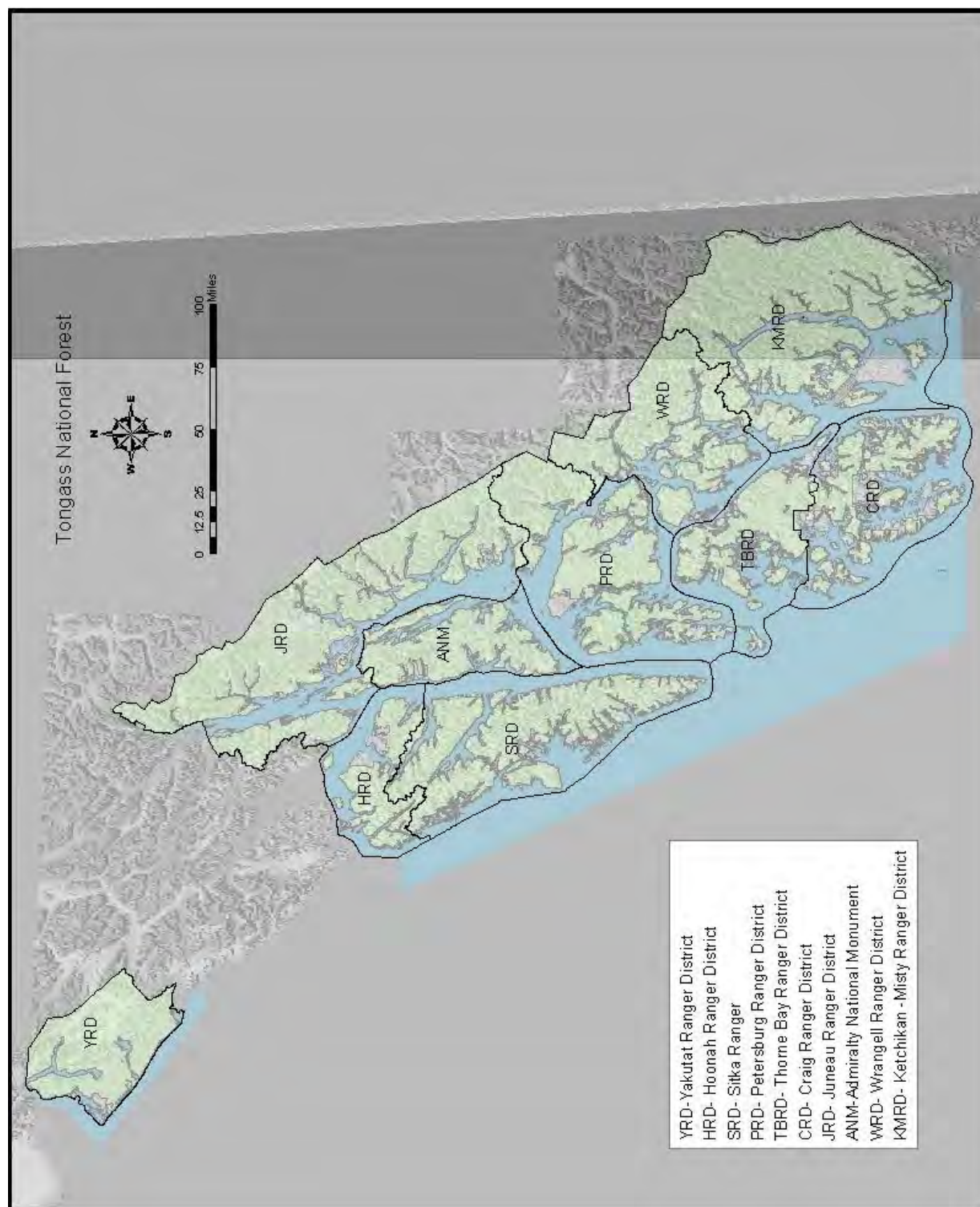


Figure 3. Tongass National Forest.

### **Temporal Boundaries**

Temporal boundaries for periods of cabin construction were determined based on defining historical events at the national and state level. An overview of the history of developed recreation by time periods is presented in Table 1. Table 1 is based on totals gleaned from the Forest Service Infrastructure (Infra) database. A look at Table 1 shows cabin construction within the Alaska Region for recreation was not a priority until 1960. Not represented in Table 1 is a break in cabin construction between 1969 and 1972 on the Tongass and between 1971 and 1977 on the Chugach. This break corresponds with the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) in 1971. ANCSA's purpose was to finalize all aboriginal land claims in Alaska. ANCSA established regional Native Corporations to select for conveyance some 45 million acres of lands statewide (Case and Voluck 2002). This led to uncertainty in the Forest Service about what lands would be under their jurisdiction in the future. Since 1972, public recreation cabin construction has continued through the present day.

The basic style of the A-frame and Pan Abode continues through the present day. Thus the break in cabin construction that occurred in 1972 was chosen as a somewhat arbitrary ending date for the period of significance. Table 1 represents cabins entered into the Infra database and does not necessarily reflect all cabins present during the specific time periods. In other words, some cabins torn down over the years may not be represented in the Infra database.

**Table 1. Number of recreation cabins listed in the Infra database and their periods of construction.**

<b>Time period</b>	<b>Chugach</b>	<b>Tongass</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>1897-1929</b>	1	0	1
<b>1930-1941</b>	1	6	7
<b>1942-1959</b>	1	2	3
<b>1960-1971</b>	15	76	91
<b>1972-2009</b>	24	80	104
<b>Total</b>	42	164	206

The historic Romig-Wright Cabin was constructed in 1938 as a trapper's cabin. It was used under special use permit from 1959-1970 and was added to the reservation system in 1972. It was replaced in a nearby location with a Pan Abode in 1976 (See Figure 40 and the discussion on early cabins adapted for recreation use on pages 12-14).



Figure 4. Historic Romig-Wright Cabin, Chugach National Park, Seward Ranger District.



## **Historic Context: Developed Recreation and the Forest Service**

Humans have a long history with what we now manage as National Forests. Hunting, camping, hiking, fishing, berry picking, wood gathering, etc. are all needs serviced by the forests since time immemorial. In Alaska it can be difficult to separate the taking of these resources for living from participating in these activities for recreation. The Alaska Region constructed the recreation cabins in order to provide safe dispersed recreational opportunities in remote areas. While campgrounds and visitor centers were also constructed, the cabins were a unique solution to the growth in popular recreation seen after World War II (WWII). Therefore an overview of the context of developed recreation within the Forest Service is provided.

### ***1897-1929 A Need for Recreation Management Arises***

In 1897 under the Forest Reserve Act (often referred to as the Organic Act) of June 4, management of public lands previously set aside as forest reserves became active. In 1905 the management of forest reserves was shifted from the General Land Office to the Forest Service under the Transfer Act of February 1 (Tweed 1978).

Gifford Pinchot, first chief of the Forest Service from 1905-10, emphasized the word “service” as an integral part of the mission of the agency. Early on, Pinchot acknowledged the value of public lands for recreation (Rakestraw 2002). The idea forests could be managed for multiple uses was spelled out in the first Forest Service manual known as the “Use Book.” This book guided management practices for timber, water, pasture, mineral and other forest resources. This was the beginning of the guiding principle that included recreation and culminated, with much debate, in the passage of the Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act (MUSY) in 1960 (Quinn 2002).

An article published in a 1910 issue of Collier’s Outdoor America titled *Everybody’s Camping Ground: the National Government Throws Open its Forest Reserves as a Play Field for the People*, is an early example of how the public was encouraged to use and visit their national forests. The article details numerous possibilities for excursions in the western country explaining there are no permits needed for transient camping, how wood may be taken at will, and that horses may be grazed without permit. The article also reveals an early attraction to drive through the forest, telling the reader, “If you prefer, you can drive through the lower of these forests in a tented wagon. The roads are as good as mountain roads go” (Laut 1910: 20-21).

In 1915 Congress passed the Term Permit Act allowing the Forest Service to issue special use permits for privately owned recreational facilities. The resulting construction of privately owned but permitted summer homes, hotels, stores and kiosks became a source of revenue for the forests, which in turn went towards developed public recreational facilities (Quinn 2002). In Alaska, special use permits for private recreation cabins and tent platforms were issued. However, the large scale construction of hotels was planned but never came to fruition in Alaska like it did in the lower 48 states.

The introduction of the mass-produced Ford automobile, and the subsequent growth of motorized traffic, provided middle class Americans affordable transportation to access their National Forests. By 1927, millions of Model T Fords had rolled off the assembly line creating the beginning of environmental impacts that continue to this day. Large numbers of people drove through to picnic, hike, fish and camp. The litter, trampled terrain, and haphazard cutting of trees for firewood left behind became an issue for the Forest Service (Tweed 1978).

Increased use from motorized traffic and camping was a contributing factor to the Forest Service employing landscape architects. The intent was to design areas that would control use areas for ease of management. Arthur H. Carhart, recreation engineer for the Forest Service from 1919-1923, was the first full-time landscape architect employed by the Forest Service. He designed the first campgrounds specifically intended for automobile use. But it was not long till he would write “years ago there could easily be found open country where one could play, picnic, tramp, or camp at almost any turn of the road. A few years ago by going a small distance camping places, where nature was still supreme, could be found. But today, with man land-hungry, these places are fast disappearing” (Carhart 1920).

In 1897 when the Organic Act was passed, Alaska had been a territory of the United States for 30 years. By then, exploitation of Alaska’s natural resources was well underway. Federal recognition of fish as a valuable commodity created the first Forest Reserve in Alaska in 1892, the Afognak Forest and Fish Culture Reserve (Rakestraw 2002: 10). Later, the establishment of the Forest Service brought the designation of the Alexander Archipelago Forest Reserve in 1902, the Chugach National Forest and the area east of Ketchikan was designated as the Tongass National Forest 1907. The incorporation of most of the remaining lands in Southeast Alaska into the Tongass National Forest was completed in 1909.

Compared to National Forests in the lower 48, outdoor recreation management was non-existent in Alaska during the period from 1897-1929. Industries such as fish

processing, mining and timber, were bringing more Anglo settlers who in turn built camps and communities. The Forest Service recreation cabin that dates to this time period, built in 1918, was part of one such community.

The McKinley Trail Cabin is significant as the only remaining structure in the historic town of Alaganik. It is also the last intact log cabin along the Copper River and Northwestern Railway route...It was built during the period when the railroad was the primary mode of transportation for the Copper River Delta. The log construction, sphagnum moss chinking, and V- notching are all unique when considered in relation to the other cabins in the area, all of which are more recent, and most of which have aluminum siding, or are constructed of dimensional lumber... Stabilization of the cabin was undertaken in 1960 by the Forest Service, which resulted in extending the useful life of the building. The major structural components of the building retain their integrity.

The cabin is about 100 feet from, and historically associated with, the McKinley Lake Trail (COR-00532). The trail was the main access route from the railroad to the McKinley Lake Gold Mining District, which consisted of the McKinley Lake Mine (COR-00449), the Lucky Strike Mine, the Pioneer Mine, and the Bear Creek Mine (Buzzell 2001). The prospecting and development of hard rock mines occurred in the McKinley Lake Gold Mining District from 1898 to World War II. The McKinley Lake Mine was reopened in 1944, with work occurring there until 1960. Once the Copper River and Northwestern Railroad arrived, the McKinley Lake Trail was more widely used by people wanting to visit, or work at the mines. The McKinley Lake Gold Mining District (COR-00449) was formed in 1900 by M.J. Heney, but it was never fully developed, despite numerous attempts over 80 years. Currently, several hundred people hike up the McKinley Lake Trail each year to visit McKinley Lake and the mines (Yarborough 2004: 3-4).

Acquired by the Forest Service in 1960, the McKinley Lake Trail cabin (Figure 5) was used under special use permit. The cabin was added to the reservation system in 1981. It was determined eligible for the National Register in 2003 (Yarborough 2004). This is one of the four examples in the Alaska Region where adaptive reuse of a historic structure was used for a recreation cabin. The others are the Romig-Wright on the Chugach National Forest (Figure 4), Greentop on the Hoonah Ranger District, and the Denver Caboose on the Juneau Ranger District, both on the Tongass National Forest.



Figure 5. McKinley Lake Trail Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Cordova Ranger District.

### ***1930-1945 Recreation Infrastructure Built by the CCC – WWII Shifts Priorities***

The National Forests became inexpensive local retreats during the Great Depression caused by the stock market crash of October 29, 1929. High levels of unemployment affected all classes of Americans, but especially the working class (Ellison 1942). On March 31, 1933, Congress passed the Emergency Conservation Work Act (ECW), the law that created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) (Otis, et al. 1986). This program was created to put people to work locally on rural conservation and forestry projects, thereby relieving unemployment and increasing infrastructure.

The CCC contributed enormously to the development of public recreation infrastructure. Roads, campgrounds and recreation areas were constructed, expanded, or improved in National Forests across America and in Alaska. An architectural style known as “Rustic” characterizes the buildings and structures from this time period. This style is characterized by over-sized rough-hewn logs and stones that required intensive hard labor to construct. The CCC made this labor available.

Projects by the CCC in Alaska were statewide and included air strips, housing, fire and flood control, demolition, communications, wells, cabins, sanitation, trails, roads, bridges, shooting ranges, fences, floats and docks, dams, hatcheries, campgrounds,

trails, shelters, totem pole restoration and archaeology. Unlike in the lower 48 states where the U.S. Army administered the CCC, in Alaska the Forest Service was charged with CCC oversight and administration.

The CCC contribution to recreation in the Alaska Region is seen in Forest Service trails, three-sided shelters (Figure 6) and wooden skiffs that enhanced fishing and hunting opportunities on inland lakes on both the Chugach and the Tongass. However, cabins were only constructed by the CCC on the Tongass. Alaska Region recreation cabins that predate the CCC were added to the reservation system after 1960.



Figure 6. Three Lakes Shelter, Tongass National Forest, Petersburg Ranger District.

The CCC era of cabin and threesided shelter construction was precursor to what was to become the public recreation cabin program in Alaska. The CCC period (1933-1942) is an established period of significance for eligibility determinations to the National Register of Historic Places. Generally these structures are eligible under criteria A or C (refer to pages 60-62). The five Alaska Region CCC cabins, presented in Table 2, have all been evaluated and determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Mobley 1993).

**Table 2. Cabins built by the CCC on the Tongass National Forest and their eligibility determinations**

Cabin Name	AHRS #	Determination	Date	District	Figure
Distin Lake Cabin	SIT-361	Listed	1933	ANM	Figure 7
Big Shaheen Cabin	SIT-019	Listed	1935	ANM	Figure 8
Dan Moller Cabin	JUN-927	Eligible	1936	JRD	Figure 9
Hasselborg Creek Cabin <sup>2</sup>	SIT-322	Listed	1937	ANM	Figure 10
Salmon Lake Cabin	CRG-322	Eligible	1940	CRD	Figure 11

<sup>2</sup>The Distin and Hasselborg Creek (?) cabins were originally constructed as a three-sided shelter as seen in Figure 6. In the 1950s the Territorial Sportsmen Inc. (TSI) closed in the third side to make a cabin of both shelters.





Figure 7. Distin Lake Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Admiralty National Monument.

Photo date ca. 1998. This cabin was originally a three-sided shelter but was closed in by the Territorial Sportsmen in the 1950s.



Figure 8. Dan Moller Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Juneau Ranger District.

Historic photo, ca. 1940 courtesy of the Alaska State Library PCA3-1-163. This cabin was replaced with a Pan Abode in 2010.



Figure 9. Big Shaheen Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Admiralty National Monument.

Historic photo, 1936. Photo is on file at the Juneau Ranger District.



Figure 10. Salmon Lake Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Craig Ranger District.

Photo ca. 1980. Cabin is constructed entirely of cedar shakes.



Figure 11. Hasselborg Creek Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Admiralty National Monument.

Photo ca. 2000. This cabin was originally a three-sided shelter but was closed in by TSI in the 1950s. It has a stone chimney, pictured below.



Enrollment in the CCC began to wane in 1941 as the economy was beginning to recover and the war in Europe was escalating. After the declaration of war by the United States on Japan on December 8, 1941, federal projects not directly related to the war heard their death knell ring. The CCC was abolished by a joint committee of Congress on July 1, 1942 (Throop 1979).

In addition to the CCC, the depression resulted in a response by the federal government to create various methods of enticing people to move to Alaska. In 1934 President Roosevelt appointed Earnest Gruening (future Alaska governor) as head of a newly created Division of Territories and Island Possessions. One goal of this new division was to move close to 1,500 people from the depression-affected regions of the country, particularly those from cold climates, to Alaska where they could start a new life (Borneman 2004: 312). This resulted in the eventual establishment of an agricultural community in South-Central Alaska. Other programs, like fox farm leases in Southeast Alaska, also contributed to this growth. Along with agricultural expansion came a change in Alaska's population, both in number and demographics. As settlers began to have families, mining camps and fishing villages evolved into communities with more women and children, where infrastructure and planning became more important. This growth had an effect on the new Alaskan's lifestyle activities of work, family and recreation.

The American entry into World War II brought continued construction of roads, bridges, airports and military facilities across the United States. In addition to increased infrastructure, the increased production of planes and other equipment brought high demands for materials like plywood and Plexiglas. These materials were used in the production of airplanes and other support equipment during the war. In the post war years, the refinement of these mass-produced materials and technologies had lasting effects on the American economy that included a new market for recreation products.

Construction of the Alaska Highway began on March 8, 1942 by United States soldiers. The goal of connecting Alaska to the lower 48 through Canada by road was achieved in eight months and twelve days. When completed it was a rutty, winding pioneer road. A portion of the military personnel that worked on this road eventually made Alaska their home after the war. The State's growing population now had increased access to Alaska and its resources.

Recognition of the roll the Alaskan Highway would play in tourism and recreation for Alaska is apparent in a study published by the National Park Service in 1944. This study, entitled *Recreation Resources of the Alaska Highway and Other Roads in Alaska*, discusses the lure of Alaska's scenery and wildlife along with its suitability for outdoor



The West Turner Lake Cabin was designed during the CCC but believed to be built after the end of the program. The cabin was designed by Linn Forrest in 1940. It was determined eligible for the National Register in 2008 and renovated in 2009. The first photo was taken ca. 1980 and the second photo was taken in 2009.

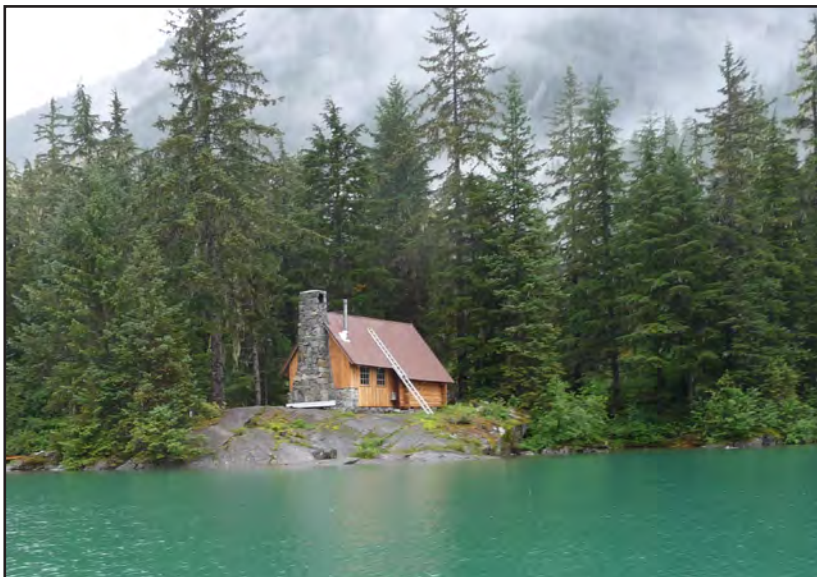


Figure 12. West Turner Lake Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Juneau Ranger District, ca. 1980 (above) and 2009 after renovations (below).

physical recreation. Maps are provided of major roads developed at that time in Alaska. By correctly anticipating the growing industry of tourism, the study called on Alaska to begin planning for increases in need and demand for recreation opportunities.

The effects of both the Great Depression and WWII are multi-faceted in regards to Alaska. In the context of the eventual establishment of enhanced recreational facilities the effects of both historical events had similar results. Both brought local work to Alaska, were important to the development of its infrastructure, and contributed to the Territory's population increase.

### ***1945-1959 Post War Boom Brings New Focus to Recreation***

Veterans of World War II were given support after the war through government sponsored programs like the G.I. Bill. One of the many opportunities offered by this bill was a provision for low interest, zero down payment loans for the purchase of a new home. These opportunities contributed to the growing prosperity and expansion of the middle class during the 1950s. One result from this prosperity was the "democratization of the leisure life" which had lasting effects on outdoor recreation in America.

The industries surrounding plywood, pulpwood and fabricated woods expanded during this era and assisted a growing freedom in architectural design with cheap and innovative materials. These materials and industry were brought to the new growing market of outdoor recreation. Products like prefabricated housing, recreational vehicles and other outdoor equipment gave the new highly mobile middle class more comforts in the great outdoors.

The last of the non-prefabricated cabins built in the Alaska Region for decades to come was on the Chugach, on the Seward Ranger District. The Upper Russian Lake Cabin (SEW-00975) (Figure 13) was built in 1951 by the Forest Service, from hand-hewn logs as lodging for a Forest Service trail crew. It is a log cabin constructed from local timber in the same vein of the Rustic style used by the CCC. After serving as an administrative facility, it became part of the public recreation system. It has been determined eligible for the National Register and was renovated in 2007.

The Chugach National Forest did not construct another recreation cabin until 1963. That cabin was the Crescent Lake cabin, a Pan Abode structure, on the Seward Ranger District and was related to Dingell-Johnson stocking of fish in Crescent Lake.



**Above:** Photo after 2007 renovation.

**Right:** Historic photo from 1951.



Figure 13. Upper Russian Lake Cabin: Chugach: Seward Ranger District.

Public land managers and foresters felt the pressure of the growing new population of outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Articles in forestry magazines continued to debate the burgeoning role of recreation management as a duty of the forester. Awareness was brought forth about the inadequate supply of needed infrastructure to accommodate the demands of the growing population recreating on public lands. A result of this awareness was a demand for Congressional funding to assist land managing agencies to develop this infrastructure.

#### **Dingell – Johnson Act: First Public Recreation Cabins since the CCC**

On August 9, 1950, Congress passed the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777-777k, 64 Stat. 430). This act was commonly called the Dingell-Johnson Act. It provides federal aid to the States for management and restoration of fish having “material value in connection with sport or recreation in the marine and/or fresh waters of the United States.” Funds from a 10 percent excise tax on certain items of sport fishing tackle are permanently appropriated (see P.L. 136, August 31, 1951; 65 Stat. 262) to the Secretary of the Interior and apportioned to States on a formula basis for paying up to 75 percent of the cost of approved projects. Project activities include acquisition and improvement of sport fish habitat, stocking of fish, research into fishery resource problems, surveys and inventories of sport fish populations, and acquisition and development of access facilities for public recreation (Wildlife Laws 2009).



**Table 3. Dingle-Johnson Cabins on the Tongass National Forest.**

<b>District</b>	<b>Cabin Name</b>	<b>Date Constructed</b>	<b>Current Condition</b>
CRD	Red Bay Lake	1953	Demolished
N/A	Salmon Creek Dam	1954	Unknown
SRD	Maksoutof Lake	~1950	Unknown
JRD	Shelter Island	~1955	Still standing/ now on State land
ANM	Young Lake	~1956	Demolished
SRD	Kook Lake	1956	Demolished
ANM	Florence Lake	~1957	Demolished
JRD	Windfall Lake (?)	?	Unknown
JRD	Turner Lake	1958	Demolished



Figure 14. East Turner Lake Dingell-Johnson Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Juneau Ranger District.



Figure 15. West Florence Lake Dingell-Johnson Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Admiralty National Monument.



Figure 16. Red Bay Lake Dingell-Johnson Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Thorne Bay Ranger District.



Figure 17. Shelter Island Dingell-Johnson Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Juneau Ranger District.

In Southeast Alaska on the north Tongass, the Forest Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) cooperatively joined with a local community organization like the Territorial Sportsmen Inc. and constructed plywood cabins with these funds. The resulting cabins have come to be referred to as Dingell-Johnson cabins (Figures 14-17 and Table 3). These cabins brought new meaning to the term “rustic.” Unlike the Rustic architectural designs of the CCC era, where local materials were crafted into a substantial structure, these cabins were constructed from either 1/8” or 3/8” plywood. They were 10’ X 12’ structures with a tar paper and corrugated aluminum roof. They had up to two windows and had one door. The cabins contained a wood burning stove, bunks, a table, and are reported to originally have had dirt floors. Strictly utilitarian structures, the cabins were designed and constructed in the early 1950s by Ed Zigler of TSI. Joe Trucano assembled the first of this type that was built at Salmon Creek Dam (not Forest Service) in Juneau. From this first effort, the TSI adjusted and refined the style (Grummet 1988).

There were at least 11 of these in use in 1969 on the Ketchikan Area of the Tongass (Beck 1969). Information is limited on these cabins but it appears they were constructed for the most part between 1950 and 1958, and they continued to be used through the 60s, 70s and 80s and possibly into the 90s. Known cabin locations are included in Table 3. No longer present on the reservation system, most have, to date, been destroyed except for the Shelter Island cabin and the Maksoutof Lake cabin which is scheduled to be removed this year. Information is limited on these cabins because they were torn down and replaced over the past 40 years without documentation. They are an interesting interim cabin in the recreation cabin’s history. They were built during the same time that the now-acknowledged practice of removing “trespass” cabins, which were often native smokehouses or fish camps, was common practice by the Forest Service.

### **Operation Outdoors**

Nationally, there was a recorded 92 percent increase in recreational use of the National Forests between 1950 and 1957. This placed pressure on deteriorating recreational facilities brought on by neglect and diverted funding during World War II. On July 1, 1957, the Forest Service began a 5-year program called “Operation Outdoors” to provide sanitation, clean up, and care for existing recreation areas. This program also sought to provide new areas in an effort to relieve pressure on overcrowded facilities. “Operation Outdoors” was conceived to run concurrently, and somewhat competitively, with a similar program in the National Park Service known as “Mission 66” (Brockman 1959).

One effect of “Operation Outdoors” on recreation facilities was a deliberate departing from the nostalgic rustic style to that of modern design.

Following World War II, the context of recreation use and architecture in the United States changed again. The post-war economic boom created demand for recreation on the national forests. It also increased distribution of manufactured and finished materials throughout the country. In 1956, the National Park Service began “Mission 66,” a 10-year program to upgrade its facilities by the agency’s 50th anniversary. The Forest Service began a parallel program called “Operation Outdoors” in 1957. Designers in both programs consciously departed from the nostalgic rustic style and embraced the tenets of the international style and modern design. This style included simple forms with clean, straight edges; functional design with little ornamentation or decoration; and the use of manufactured rather than handcrafted materials (USDA 2001: 15).

### **The Outdoor Recreation Resource Review Commission**

In 1959 the Congress authorized a study of outdoor recreation under the authority of the Outdoor Recreation Resource Review Commission (ORRRC) Public Law 85-470. The Commission studied outdoor recreational needs and resources throughout the nation. They developed an inventory of recreational resources that would be required in the years 1976 and 2000 (Brockman 1959). Three years of research by the Commission resulted in a multitude of recommendations. Their report was published in 1962.

Alaska officially became a state on January 3, 1959. As a new state, one priority was to inventory the natural resources available for use. One focus of the Dingell-Johnson program had been to inventory inland lakes for Arctic grayling and other sport fish.<sup>3</sup> With statehood, Alaska could participate even more in the Dingell-Johnson program and the Forest Service continued to use its funds for construction of recreation cabins. Only now the cabins would be A-Frames and Pan Abodes.

### **1960-1971 Recreation Gains Administrative Recognition**

During the 1960s, especially in the lower 48, recreational second homes of all kinds were becoming increasingly popular. This development grew alongside continued growth in road and highway construction, campgrounds and other recreation areas.

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<sup>3</sup>The Dingell-Johnson Project Report published by the Alaska Division of Sport Fish (1959-1960) is available at the State Historical Library. These reports list the lakes surveyed for presence of sport fish. Recommendations were made about stocking certain lakes to provide sport fishing opportunities. The list of lakes inventoried reads like a list of current recreational cabin locations.

The desire for the American public to reconnect with the outdoors resulted from an urban prosperity which, in turn, caused pollution and overcrowding of the environments the public wanted to enjoy. This brought forth environmental legislation that affected the nation's outlook and management of natural resources. Among a long list of legislative acts that affected public land managing agencies and their relationship to the environment, two pieces of legislation were directly related to recreation; the Multiple Use – Sustained Yield Act and the Wilderness Act.

### **Multiple Use – Sustained Yield Act**

The Multiple – Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960 (MUSY) was passed by Congress on June 12, 1960. This law authorizes and directs the Secretary of Agriculture to develop and administer the renewable resources of timber, range, water, recreation and wildlife on the national forests for multiple use and sustained yield of the products and services. This is the first law to have the five major uses of national forests contained in one law equally, with no use greater than any other.

As an agency that has a long history of putting timber first, the implementation of equally providing for all the uses of the forest was a struggle for the Forest Service. However, MUSY, the ORRRC, and statehood, combined with the availability and acceptance of prefabricated materials, created the directives that lead to the first wave of construction of recreation cabins in the Alaska Region between 1960 and 1971.

### **The Alaska Region Establishes a Recreation Cabin Program**

Between 1960 and 1971 the Alaska Region built at least 91 A-frame and Pan Abode cabins. Of these, 15 were on the Chugach and 76 were on the Tongass. There was a break in cabin construction between 1969 and 1972 on the Tongass and between 1970 and 1977 on the Chugach. This break corresponds with the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) in 1971<sup>4</sup>. Since then, public recreation cabin construction has continued steadily through the present day.

The need was further established, as discussed previously, when in January of 1962 the results of the Outdoor Recreation Resource Review Commission published their findings in a report entitled "Outdoor Recreation for America," a 250 page document that details the growing need for recreation opportunities in Alaska.

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<sup>4</sup> ANCSA's purpose was to finalize all aboriginal land claims in Alaska. ANCSA established regional Native Corporations to select for conveyance some 45 million acres of lands statewide (Case and Voluck 2002). This led to uncertainty in the Forest Service about what lands would be under their jurisdiction in the future.



Alaska is a storehouse of recreation opportunities. In this new state, with far less than 1 percent of the total national population, are 31 percent of the lands in the National Parks system, 65 percent of the wildlife refuge lands, 64 percent of the public domain and 11 percent of the National Forest acreage.

This generous supply gives some indication of the role Alaska could play in meeting the recreational demands of the people of the other 49 states. The new State is entitled to select 102 million acres of land from the federal domain during the next 25 years, but this selection is not expected to affect the overall supply of recreation resources. There are difficult problems to be solved before this great potential can be realized. Alaska is still remote for most Americans seeking outdoor recreation: it takes time and money to get there. The prospect is that over the next 40 years, the public will have more of both and visit Alaska more. Advances in travel technology will also help.

There are also problems in development. The resources are there – some of the finest in the world. Hunting and fishing are excellent. The scenic grandeur is unsurpassed. But at present there are few facilities to serve the public. Without the facilities, the recreation-seeking public will not come. Without the public demand, capital cannot afford the risk of development. Capital for development of recreation potential is thus the prime need (ORRRC 1962: 72-73).

This summary of the situation in regards to Alaska's recreation potential was very accurate. At this point the Tongass had a handful of Dingell-Johnson funded cabins available for public recreation; the Chugach had one log cabin. In the midst of this established need was the growing popularity and availability of prefabricated recreational structures and designs available by mail.

In September of 1962 the Tongass began constructing both A-frame and Pan Abode cabins. In 1963 the Chugach National Forest built its first prefabricated Pan Abode style cabin and their first A-frame in 1966. They continued to build at least one cabin a year through 1970 using the two different styles of Pan Abode (Figure 18) and A-frame (Figure 19). Although a few variants were used on the Tongass, the A-frame and Pan Abode became the standards for recreation cabin construction in the Alaska Region. The cabins were built with "regular P&M funds allotted for recreational purposes" (Beck 1969: 2). P&M funds stood for program and maintenance funds which were allotted as a lump sum to programs for their work. This is no longer the system used to fund programs or cabin construction and maintenance.



Site selection for cabins was a low-tech operation. Reportedly the process involved traveling to the desired lake or saltwater cove, walking and boating around the area, and considering the options for where to locate a cabin (Hennig 2009). According to a Recreational Construction Handbook for the Ketchikan Area<sup>5</sup>, under site selection, the handbook lists eight considerations for selecting a site: access, freshwater, drainage, orientation, slope, view, wood supply and recreation.



Figure 18. Little Shaheen Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Admiralty National Monument.

In 1963 the Alaska Marine Highway began operating. This new system of ferries mobilized Southeast Alaskans like never before and opened up communities to tourism. The Forest Service was quick to partner with the ferries and launched a program to interpret the Tongass to passengers. With this opportunity recreation cabins in Alaska provided a unique twist not offered in the lower 48.



Figure 19. Garnet Ledge Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Wrangell Ranger District.

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<sup>5</sup> Publication date unknown but most likely from the 1980s due to the reference to Ketchikan Area and the handwritten pencil name of "Tallerico" across the top. Jim Tallerico worked on the Chugach in the 1980s.

If you want to camp – like you’ve never camped before – try cabin camping, Alaska-style, in the scenic magnificence of the 49th state. You can drive there via Alaska’s new Marine Highway ferry system, but you don’t really need a car. Nor even a tent for that matter.

In fact, the U.S. Forest Service has opened close to 100 truly remote cabins for campers in America’s largest national forest, the Tongass in Southeast Alaska. The cabins are weather-tight, equipped with bunks and stoves where only a float plane can penetrate in most cases (McClean 1965).

In the lower 48 states, at this time, the construction of campgrounds that catered to the family vehicle was on the rise. In Alaska the construction of recreation cabins became the alternative that best accommodated the lack of road access particular to Alaska. This priority was much more prevalent on the Tongass than the Chugach due to the difference in road access between the two forests. The Chugach has more roads closer to population centers, especially on the Seward Ranger District, where the majority of Chugach cabins and trails are concentrated.

Recommendations made by the ORRRC in 1962 to charge fees for developed recreation use were implemented nationwide over time to assist in the maintenance of developed recreation sites. The Alaska Region began charging a fee for cabin use in 1965. The fee was 5 dollars and reservations were made at the district offices. The importance of the new recreation opportunities available was the subject of *Alaska Recreation and Government Policies* published in 1967. This report indicates the cooperative nature of the recreation cabins program and the importance it had to the growing industry of tourism in Alaska.

Nineteen sixty five marked the end of the first five years of a fifteen year building program aimed at improving and upgrading the region’s recreational resources. Presently, the Forest Service is a major provider of recreational facilities for both Alaskans and out-of-state visitors.

The wildlife management responsibilities of the Forest Service are based on a Master Memorandum of Understanding with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The wildlife management staff surveys wildlife, including waterfowl, salmon, and brown bear and deer. Attempts are made between timber management and wildlife management (e.g., the spawning habitat of major salmon streams). The Forest Service also conducts winter game range surveys, which are used as a basis for current management programs. Game is harvested on Forest service land; the agency

wants proper harvest level of game stocks in remote areas. To solve the problem, the Forest Service has constructed seven 2,000-foot airstrips and six cabins in Yakutat (Figure 20). These have increased hunting and fishing opportunities, thus keeping the game population within proper limits. Public cabins are maintained in the Stikine Delta waterfowl area to keep game stocks within appropriate carrying capacities.

The outlying cabin concept, unique to the Alaskan region, is a valuable outgrowth of the construction of three-sided shelters during the CCC days... (Saroff 1967: 116).

Locating Forest Service cabin use records or surveys has been unsuccessful for the time period 1960-1971. A focused search on this topic was limited to the Regional Office and the Juneau Ranger District. It is possible that a report like this exists at another district office but time constraints have limited the search for such information.



Figure 20. Tanis Mesa Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Yakutat Ranger District.

Left: Airstrip located next to Tanis Mesa Cabin.

Left Below: Cabin and associated A-frame meat shed photo in 1962.

Below: Cabin in 2009





## **The Wilderness Act**

In 1964, Congress passed the Wilderness Act. This legislation, established the National Wilderness Preservation System and immediately designated 54 areas (9.1 million acres) in 13 states as Wilderness, and directed the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to survey their lands for other areas that could be added to the wilderness system. To protect these lands in a natural state, the Wilderness Act prohibits many activities that would impair the areas' wilderness character, but does not limit activities such as hunting and fishing. Both the original and subsequent acts "grandfathered" some activities that pre-dated designation, such as pre-existing irrigation systems, hydroelectric dams and other structures. The National Wilderness Preservation System now includes 757 areas (109,501,022 acres) in 44 states and Puerto Rico. Of that total acreage, about 54 percent is located in Alaska (<http://www.wilderness.net/>).

Many of the Alaska Region recreation cabins are in designated Wilderness areas. This is because Alaska did not establish any Wilderness until the passage of the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (ANILCA) in 1980<sup>6</sup>. All of the Alaska Region established Wilderness is on the Tongass National Forest. The Chugach has one Wilderness study area. Among other differences to Wilderness specifications in the lower 48 states, ANILCA allowed for the continuation and maintenance of existing public recreation cabins within Wilderness (Section 1315(c)) and although there are limitations, construction of new cabins can occur (Section 1315(d))<sup>7</sup>.

## **The Alaska Region Public Recreation Cabins Program Today**

The public recreation cabins (also known as outlying cabins) in the Forest Service are present in only 22 states in the country. Of these, the largest presence of public recreation cabins is in the western states. The western states that have Forest Service public recreation cabins and the number of available cabins are as follows: Arizona (11), Utah (11), Colorado (13), Washington (17), Wyoming (20), Arizona (23), California (23), Oregon (48), Idaho (58), Montana (105) and Alaska (206). Many, but not all, of these

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<sup>6</sup>The passage of ANILCA provided the needed compromise to resolve most of the issues related to the resolution of lands for the State of Alaska and aboriginal claims. The Act also provided for the designation of 14 Wilderness areas on the Tongass National Forest. As stated earlier, cabins (and shelters) within the Wilderness are allowed to continue and to be maintained. However, there was no allowance for the continued use of motorized tools to maintain these facilities. As a consequence, more skill and time may be needed to provide for the upkeep of these facilities. In ANILCA, seven Wilderness areas had existing facilities within the designated boundaries (personal communication Tremblay 2009).

<sup>7</sup>In 1990 the Tongass Timber Reform Act (TTRA) amended ANILCA and added five new Wilderness areas and expanded another. TTRA added one Wilderness that contains cabins within its borders (personal communication Tremblay 2009).

available cabins outside of Alaska are accessible by road, have electricity and flush toilets. This is not the case in Alaska. Often the rental cabins in the lower 48 were first built as fire lookout stations, ranger houses, outposts, or are historic buildings, whose first use was for something other than recreation. The exception is Alaska where the public recreation cabins were built primarily for the recreating public.

Public recreation cabins in Alaska are generally one room primitive structures that provide warming stoves, plywood bunks, tables and benches. At the time of this report, they can be reserved for \$25 to \$45 per night through an online national reservation system at <http://www.recreation.gov/>. Cabin permits are issued for noncommercial purposes to anyone 18 years of age or older. Any number of persons can occupy the cabin under a single permit although exceptions exist in designated Wilderness areas. Use under most permits is limited to 7 days between May 1 and September 30, and 10 days the rest of the year. An exception to this is made for the cabins near the city of Juneau where demand for the cabins is high and use is restricted to a maximum of two nights. A permit day begins at 12 noon on the assigned day and ends at 12 noon the following day (USDA 2009). The cabins are never locked. Cabins on some road systems are open to the public as a warming shelter daily from 10 am - 5 pm except on Prince of Wales Island, Sitka and Yakutat. Safety has been a factor in the continued support of the cabins program. It is commonly understood that these cabins are available for use in times of need for the general public, as well as State and federal agency personnel who do their work in remote locations.

Recreational cabins are also available from other land managing agencies in Alaska. The Bureau of Land Management maintains twelve public recreation cabins; Alaska State Parks have 60 cabins and 8 ice huts, the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge has 7 cabins, and the National Park Service has 3 coastal cabins open only during the summer months and 1 year-round cabin.

The public recreation cabins are a major part of the forest recreation program and recognized as a key feature of the Alaska Region's recreation niche. Overall cabin usage and occupancy remains fairly flat, with cabins close to communities or near key fish or wildlife harvest areas being the most popular. In 2009 the Tongass National Forest received a total of 8,277 nights reserved for their total cabin population<sup>8</sup> (von Rekowski 2010). Highest use is during the summer months (May-August) with additional peak usage around areas where hunting and fishing is good in the fall and spring. Cost recovery is below total program costs, and public support of current fees is good, overall (Hagadorn 2010).

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<sup>8</sup> Reservation numbers from the Chugach were unavailable.

## **Conclusion**

The recreation cabins program in the Alaska Region developed in response to the national growth in popularity of outdoor recreation during the 1950s. Through the 1960s, the Alaska Region successfully and cooperatively provided dispersed recreational opportunities that suited the Alaskan environment and public needs. In the past, a rustic aesthetic embodied the Forest Service built environment. However, that rustic style was time consuming to construct. In order to meet the demands of the ORRRC recommendations and statistics, the Forest Service looked to the availability of prefabricated products, and the A-frame and the Pan Abode cabins were the result.

Both the Pan Abode and the A-frame designs continue to be used to this day. In 2008 the Ketchikan Ranger District replaced a heavily deteriorated A-frame cabin, the Deer Mountain cabin, with another A-frame constructed from locally milled lumber. Kit homes like Pan Abode continue to be used although with bigger floor plans and larger windows. Recreation cabins have come to be an expected and popular feature on the Alaskan landscape. As an exceptionally different opportunity in the world of developed recreation within the National Forest System, the question arises; are they exceptionally significant to the history of our region?

## The National Register Evaluation Process

The 1966 National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires that federal agencies take into consideration the effects of undertakings on properties listed on or eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. In order for the effects of an undertaking to be considered on a historic property, the property has to first be evaluated. Properties being evaluated for eligibility to the National Register are compared against a list of established criteria. These criteria are listed in 36 CFR 60, National Register of Historic Places. The regulations are worded in a manner that provide for individual interpretation for a diverse variety of resources. Generally the minimum age of a property considered eligible is 50 years old. The evaluator of a property less than 50 years old must make a case that the property is of *exceptional* importance. The regulations do not define “exceptional” and emphasize it is a fluid guideline that “may be the function of the relative age of a community and its perceptions of old and new.” All properties gain meaning inside an “historic context” and the importance of considering the “interrelated conditions in which something exists or occurs” cannot be overlooked.

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects which have significance in American history, architecture, archaeology and culture. The program is administered by the National Park Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior. The federal government is assisted by the states, each of which has a State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The SHPO reviews all nominations to the register and is required to respond to findings within 30 days for purposes of compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). With an official concurrence from the SHPO, a property can be found eligible for the Register and afforded the legal protective considerations. In cases of disagreement between the agency and SHPO, the Keeper of the National Register makes the final decision.

Eligibility for inclusion in the Register is, at simplest, a twofold process. The property must meet one of four criteria:

- A. Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. Embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

- D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

And the historic property must possess integrity. There are seven aspects of integrity: of *location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association*. Integrity in this instance is defined as in a state of being unimpaired, undivided, or complete. Integrity also means the ability of the property to convey its significance. A historic property may not possess all seven aspects of integrity, nor are all seven of equal importance, depending on the type of property.

An eligible property may be of local, State, or national importance. Often this two-step process is cut and dry. However, in some cases the line is not so easily drawn. Therefore, the National Park Service (NPS) has outlined other criteria considerations to assist with the process for evaluating a property that falls outside the parameters of properties generally not considered eligible.

**These seven criteria considerations are:**

- A. Religious properties
- B. Moved properties
- C. Birthplaces or graves
- D. Cemeteries
- E. Reconstructed properties
- F. Commemorative properties
- G. Properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years

Criteria consideration G, pertaining to a property attaining importance within the past 50 years, is relevant for this document. This criterion states explicitly that:

The National Register Criteria for Evaluation exclude properties that achieved significance within the last fifty years unless they are of exceptional importance. Fifty years is a general estimate of the time needed to develop historical perspective and to evaluate significance. This consideration guards against the listing of properties of passing contemporary interest and ensures that the National Register is a list of truly *historic* places.

Evaluating a property that is less than 50 years old is a subjective process. Careful attention and consideration must be paid to the guidelines provided under criteria consideration G. To assist this evaluation, refer to the National Register Bulletin titled



*Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties that Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years*. This bulletin (# 22) stands currently at its third revision in 1998. This bulletin states:

As of the end of 1994, 2035 properties (out of approximately 64,000 total listings) had been listed in the National Register under Criteria Consideration G. Of these 464 listed properties reflect some aspect of the nation's history since 1950, and 77 of these places exclusively reflect some aspect of our history since 1974. Many of these properties are recognized for their extraordinary role in our nation's history; however, approximately one third are listed for their exceptional importance in community history (NPS 1998; ii).

The bulletin goes on to summarize how the first edition "guided the evaluation of properties from the Depression era and the World War II period," but further consideration has been given to the next major periods of time such as: the post-World War II era which can stretch through the mid-1960s (Civil Rights Movement); the mid-1970s (end of the Vietnam War); the early 1980s (the end of the Modern Movement in architecture); the late 1980s (end of the Cold War); or some other logical date.

The 1998 bulletin discusses how a growing concern in the preservation community resulted in the 1995 conference "Preserving the Recent Past." This conference was a sign of popular and professional commitment to the recognition of the need to preserve properties that are significant representations of our recent past. This consideration of the recent past stems from the increased pace of development in our present time. Historic properties that may have stood the test of time are often torn down before the public is given 50 years to reflect on their significance.

### ***Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties that Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years***

The following topics are presented in *Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties that Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years* bulletin. Each item is summarized below with a brief discussion of how the topic relates to the public recreation cabins.

- Historic context
- Scholarly evaluation
- Fragile or short-lived resources
- Time

- Comparative evaluation of the significance of a property
- Associations with living persons
- Properties in historic districts
- Justifying the importance of properties that have achieved significance in the past 50 years

### **Historic Context**

Although all National Register nominations must be understood within their historic context, it is of particular importance when nominating a property that is less than 50 years old. Historic context involves understanding the “time, historical theme, and geographical area with which the property is associated.” This context is established through research and thoughtful analysis of the place a property holds among the “social, political, economic, artistic, physical, architectural, or moral environment that accounted for...the resource.” The original and current nature of the property must also be considered. This historic context builds the foundation for establishing how the property is significant at the local, state or national level.

The historic context for the Forest Service public recreation cabins program in Alaska is the expansion of developed recreation in post WWII America and the growth of a leisure culture that demanded it. The context of the cabins also includes the architectural developments of prefabricated recreational structures and the continued development of inexpensive mass produced building materials. Their period of significance is from 1960-1971. This corresponds at the State level with the historic context of Alaska statehood and the passage of ANCSA.

### **Scholarly Evaluation**

If a property is less than 50 years old and has been the subject of scholarly discussion, a stronger case may be made for its significance. This discussion may be found in “journals of architectural history, social history, landscape architecture, landscaping, industrial archeology, and urban development.” Other forms of scholarship, including research and analysis presented at conferences may be a source of information. The bulletin emphasizes the necessity to distinguish specifically between “popular social commentary” and “scholarship.”

In the case of the A-frame designs, there does exist scholarly research on this design type and its place in American architecture. *A-Frame* by Chad Randl (2004) contains an in-depth discussion on the A-frame design.

### **Fragile or Short-Lived Resources**

When considering properties less than 50 years old, “some resources acquire historical qualities before the passage of 50 years because they were not built to last that long, or, by their nature, are subject to circumstances that destroy their integrity before fifty years have elapsed.” Examples of these kinds of buildings are temporary WWII structures that survived long after the war, mining structures, early motel or motor court complexes, shopping centers, and other roadside buildings. It is important to note that the bulletin explicitly states in reference to these types of properties that “one may evaluate whether a type or category of resources – as a whole – has faced loss at such a rate that relatively young survivors can be viewed as exceptional and historic.” However, consideration G also states that “properties that by their nature can last more than fifty years cannot be considered exceptionally important because of the fragility of the class of resource.” This statement appears to exclude the Forest Service recreation cabins from being eligible as fragile or short-lived resources due their nature as being able to last more than 50 years.

### **Time**

The intention of the 50 year old designation is a way for evaluators to approach historic properties with thoughtful perspective. It is important to remember that it is an arbitrary number. The National Register recognizes and acknowledges that time is fluid. It was not their intention to allow the 50 year designation to be the Hoover dam in the river of time. Since the NHPA was passed in 1966, examinations of properties less than 50 years old have successfully been argued as exceptional or significant. These include “post WWII development projects: the growth of suburban subdivisions, shopping malls and commercial strip development; the expansion of educational, recreational, and transportation facilities; the Civil Rights movement; the advent of the United States space program; the Vietnam War; and the impact of historic preservation on American cities, towns and rural areas.” An evaluator must also consider that a property can become exceptionally significant not because of the date in which it was constructed but because of the time period in which it mattered. Of course, the younger a property is the more challenging it is to demonstrate its exceptional importance.

It is important to remember that there is no set definition of “exceptional importance.” Recreation cabins need an interpretation of their “function” in relation to the “relative age” of Alaskan historic properties in general. Alaska is a young state. Development and growth has always ebbed and flowed with the economic tides. This has influenced the temporary nature of much of Alaska’s built environment. If consideration for preserving young properties is not given, the possibility exists that in 100 years there will be no representative structures left of the State’s official formative years.

### **Comparative Evaluation of the Significance of a Property**

When evaluating a property for exceptional importance, one must establish the geographic limits of that property's context. Exceptional importance can be at the local, State, or national level. When a property has importance at the State or local level, it is only necessary to compare that property to other similar properties in that locality.

Forest Service recreation cabins were built from standard designs that were reproduced across two distinct areas within the State of Alaska. There are many examples of the same building type to compare each individual property with.

### **Associations with Living Persons**

When considering nominating a property associated with a living person it must be true that the living persons "active life in their field of endeavor is over." These occasions are rare and most likely are not applicable when applied to recreation cabins.

### **Properties in Historic Districts**

Besides being eligible on the basis of exceptional importance, a property can also be eligible as an "integral part" of a historic district. Historic Districts are contained within a definable geographical area.

### **Justifying the Importance of Properties That Have Achieved Significance in the Past Fifty Years**

Properties of recent significance must be clearly and persuasively argued as eligible. This justification is highly important to protect the character and respectability of a National Register nomination. When justifying exceptional importance "it is necessary to identify other properties within the geographical area that reflect the same significance or historic associations and to determine which properties best represent the historic context in question."



## Property Types

### A-Frame

The A-frame is a simple design that rose in popularity during the early 1950s in northern California. By 1953 the design had been packaged, marketed and sold as a prefabricated kit. By the 1960s the A-frame had become popular for ski lodges and recreational homes. It was promoted in popular magazines and plan books nationwide for its ease of assembly and versatility of use (Randl 2004). The Alaska Region began using this style in 1962. The cabins were constructed by volunteers and or Forest Service employees from off the shelf lumber, plywood and Plexiglas. The A-frame cabins used in the Alaska Region were not ordered by mail. The A-Frame declined in popularity nationwide in the 1970s. However, the Forest Service continues to construct this style today. One advantage of the design is low maintenance in heavy snow areas.

A-frame construction is based on a triangular shape where rafters or trusses are joined at the peak and descend outward to the main floor level. The roof surface ties the rafters together (Figure 22). There are only two vertical walls in a true A-frame; the front and



Figure 21. Devil's Pass Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District.

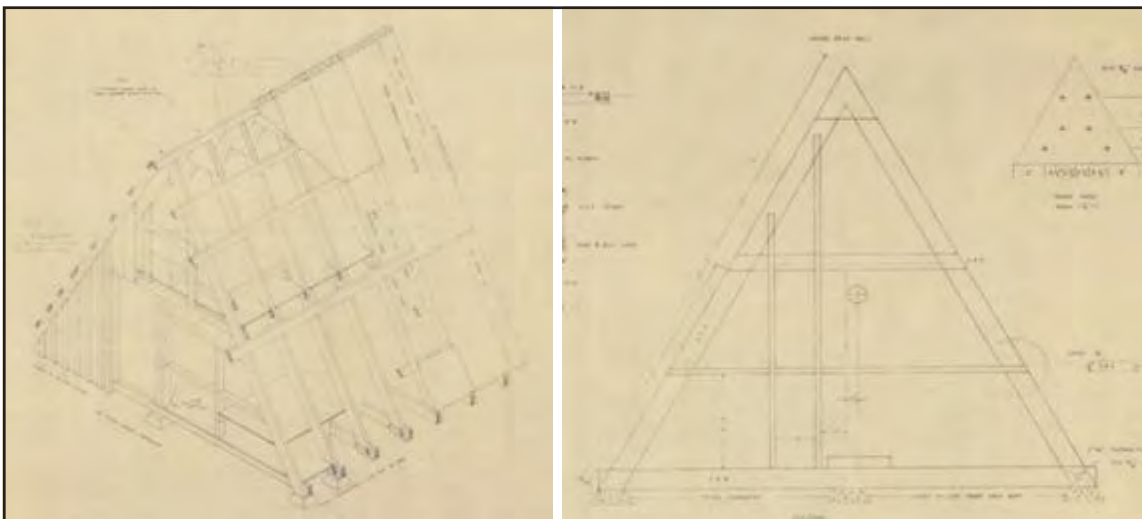


Figure 22. A-frame structural detail from Hunter Cabin – 'A' Frame 1962.

back which are equilateral triangles. Modifications include placing a dormer in one side of the roof to create a room with vertical walls. A search for early Forest Service cabin plans revealed six plans pertaining to A-frames:

- Hunter Cabin –‘A’ Frame by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game March 29, 1962. Drawn by GGC. Located in the Juneau Ranger District flat file (Figures 22 and 25).
- A Frame Cabin- Preliminary Plans dated and initialed C.T.B., R.F.T., and E.H.S., July 2, 1962. Located in the Juneau Regional Office basement flat file (Figure 28).
- Suggested Hunter’s Cabin for cabin special use permittees. June 1963; R-10 Supplement No. 38; Forest Service Handbook.
- Outlying Cabin plate 29L 2316.29 designed by BA, DS, & ES; drawn by E.H. Stone; approved and signed on July 23, 1963. The copy of this plan was mailed to the author from Wrangell.
- Chateau for Second Meadow Ski Site Chatham Ranger District Drawn by Ron Wood; approved February 2, 1964. This copy has a handwritten note that reads “Plate 29L revised and enlarged.” Located at the Juneau Ranger District flat file.
- Outlying Cabin design number 29L designed by BA, DS, & ES in 1963 and revised in 1985. The copy of this plan was mailed to the author from Wrangell (Figure 27).

Without in-depth research at the district level, it is difficult to say which A-frame was the first constructed on the Tongass. On the Chugach it was the Devil’s Pass Cabin built in 1966 (Figure 21); demolished and replaced in 2006. Of the seven constructed on the Tongass in 1962 (Table 4), the Sportsmen Cabin, Lake Kathleen Cabin, Pybus Bay Cabin and the Churchbight Cabin in Gambier Bay were all built by the Territorial Sportsmen Inc. on Admiralty Island. These cabins took one weekend and a crew of 15 people to construct. They were prefabricated in Juneau by general contractor Lee Morris, then disassembled and flown to their site locations, and reassembled by volunteer labor (Grummet 1988).

In Yakutat two distinctly different cabins were constructed; the Tanis Mesa (Figure 20) and the Harlequin Lake cabins. Built as duplexes, these two A-frame structures are actually four cabins. They are accessible by wheeled plane from Yakutat due to the presence of a runway maintained by the district cabin crews. The Harlequin Lake cabin was decommissioned from the reservation system in 2007. Its remote setting was changed when a road and bridge were built during a timber sale in the early 1970s. Over the years its connection to the Yakutat road system contributed to unauthorized use and vandalism. The Tanis Mesa cabin remains active as a reservation cabin. Though not designated Wilderness, it is located in the Yakutat forelands in an extremely pristine

and remote area where hunting is the main use. This cabin has an associated A-frame meat shed unlike other cabins in the system.

The Lake Kathleen and Sportsmen cabins were two of the only A-frames constructed based on plan Hunter Cabin –‘A’ Frame (Figure 25) published by ADFG in 1962. The Sportsman cabin was removed and replaced by the Forest Service 2003. Lake Kathleen cabin is still standing and on the reservation system as of the time of this writing.

One cabin, the Pt. Amargura cabin (Figure 28) on the Craig Ranger District, was built based on the Preliminary Plans dated 1962. The Infra database puts its construction date at 1963. This cabin was replaced with a new cabin in 2008.

Most remaining A-frame cabins in the Alaska Region appear to have been constructed based on Outlying Cabin plate 29L (Figure 27). They have full length windows on the front façade and a porch that extends forward and fits just under the extended roofline.

The Tongass built 41 A-frames during the years 1962 – 1994 (Table 4). The Chugach has only 6 A-frame public recreation cabins remaining. From 1967 – 1969 (Table 5) 6 were built consecutively with one more was constructed in 1979.

Photo date ca. 1970.  
Note Styrofoam blocks  
used for the foundation.



Figure 23. Trout Lake Cabin historic photo: Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District.





Figure 24. Lake Kathleen Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Admiralty National Monument.

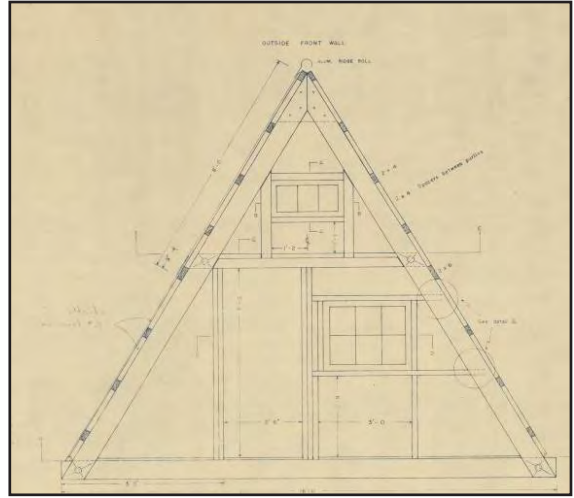


Figure 25. Front façade detail from cabin plan Hunter Cabin 'A' frame: ADFG: 1962.



Figure 26. East Florence Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Admiralty National Monument.

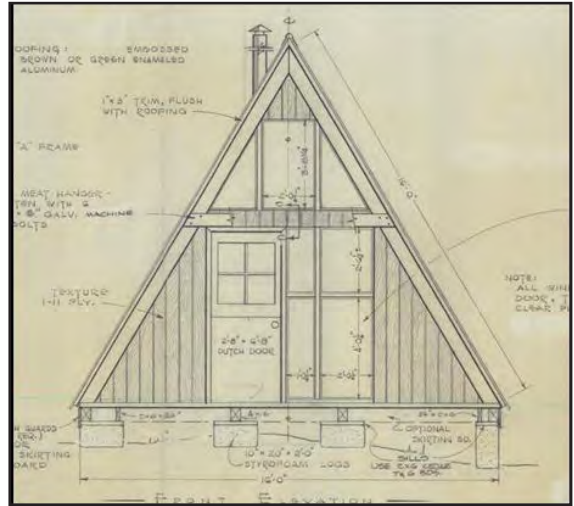
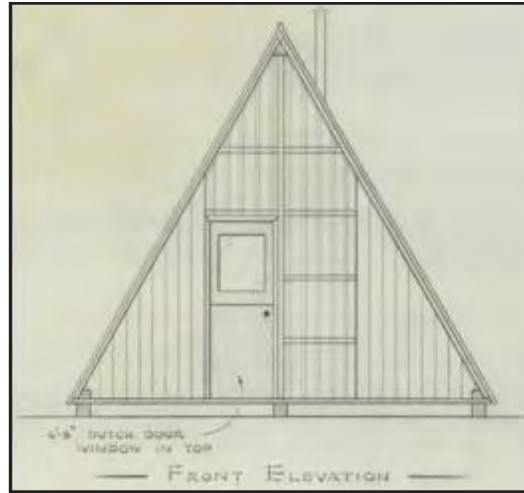


Figure 27. Front façade detail from Outlying Cabin Plate 29L 1963.





### Point Amargura Cabin

Tongass National Forest, Craig Ranger District

A-Frame built in 1962

Appears to have been the only cabin to use this floor to ceiling corrugated fiberglass as depicted in the (above) Preliminary Plans, dated 1962.



Figure 28. Point Amargura Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Craig Ranger District.





**Above:** Old Sportsman Cabin built in 1962. **Below:** New Sportsman Cabin, a Pan Abode built in 2007. The process of replacement is depicted in photos. above.



Figure 29. Sportsman Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Admiralty Island National Monument.

### **A-Frame Architectural Information**

These exterior descriptions are based on the Outlying Cabin Plan 29L from 1963 (Figure 27). In some instances a comparison is made between the 29L plan, the Preliminary Plan, and the ADFG plan. It is believed that all cabins constructed based on the Preliminary Plan (Figure 28) have been destroyed. The 29L cabin plan was revised in 1985. The 1985 version alters the placement of the door and windows on the front façade to where the door is centered under the peak of the roofline.

### **Building Characteristics that Typify the Period of Significance**

The overall design and shape using the equilateral triangle is a very important building characteristic to the A-frame. Also porches no wider than the overhanging roof, offset entries, with windows in the upper half of the entry door, and the use of corrugated green or brown aluminum roofing. Details of these characteristic are as follows:

#### **◇ Structural**

- **Front Façade:** An equilateral triangle measuring 16' on all sides is the defining characteristic of this building. The wall is constructed of textured plywood and Plexiglas. Full length windows extend from floor to ceiling minus a triangular panel of textured plywood at the top. The door in the Preliminary and the 29L plan is a 2'8" x 6'8" Dutch door and is offset left of center; this is a defining characteristic of this property type. However, in practice, the Dutch door style was not always used.
- **Rear Façade:** Similar in appearance to the front façade, the rear is also constructed of textured plywood and Plexiglas. There is no rear door. Windows in the rear extend from floor to ceiling minus a triangular-shaped vent door at the top. This vent door is hinged at the bottom and opens behind a copper or aluminum fly screen.
- **Side Elevation:** Either side elevations of a 29L (1963) A-frame is roofing. The roofing is embossed brown or green enameled aluminum. A stove pipe extends 1' above the ridgeline on the left side of the cabin.

#### **◇ Foundation**

- The foundation of the A-frame cabin was originally designed to sit on 10"x 20" x 2' 0" Styrofoam logs. There were four 4 x 6 x 20' floor joists running perpendicular to the front façade. The Styrofoam logs were placed under these joists in the front, rear and center. A note in the 29L plan explains that pressure treated posts or sills may be used in place of Styrofoam. "A 6 x 6 in. sq. post will be used, sink 3 ft. into ground." The Styrofoam logs, as foundation, were used in areas where the subsurface was moist or unsubstantial.

#### ◇ Roof

- The roof creates the side walls and runs the length of the structure. The roofing is embossed brown or green enameled aluminum.

#### ◇ Windows

- Windows are present only on the front and rear façade. The windows on the front façade are divided into seven panels and extend from the first floor to the second. There is a door to the left side of the windows on the first floor. The windows, if measured clockwise from top left, on first floor are as follows; 1'¼" wide x 2'6½" tall, 2'¼" x 2'6½", 1'¼" x 4'¼" and 2'¼" x 4'¼." On the second floor the windows are two right triangles on either side of a rectangle. The center rectangular window measures 2'¼" wide x 3'8¼" tall. The triangular windows are the same height and width as the center rectangular window with their hypotenuse formed by the roof line. The window segments are clear Plexiglas panes in the 29L design.

#### ◇ Doors

- There is one door on the front façade. It is a 2'8" wide by 6'8" Dutch door. The door is set off-center to the left. Although various doors configurations were used. The upper portion of the door has a four-paned window present. The measurements for the windows in the door are not specified in the 29L plans. Many different window configurations were used in doors.

#### ◇ Floor

- The sub floor is constructed of 2" x 6" car decking with floor of hd screen grid overlay plywood. The plans do not define hd.

#### ◇ Porch

- There is a porch that extends 4' in front of the door and is covered by an extension of the roofing. This feature is another defining characteristic of this property type. There was no porch in the Preliminary Plan or in the ADFG plan. Extended porches have been added to some cabins over time.

#### ◇ Finishes

- Forest Products Lab (F.P.L.) brown stain was required on all exposed wood.



In regards to the interior, the 29L plans state that “the location and design of bunks, counters, and cabinets are optional. All other features are standard.” All other features would include the stove, ladder, and loft floor and opening. All plywood used in the construction of these cabins was expected to be of exterior or marine grade. Modifications to A-frame cabins were generally made by constructing a dormer in one of the side façades and do not appear to have occurred until after 1971.

**Table 4. Tongass National Forest: A-frame cabins constructed between 1960-1971.**

District	Cabin Name	Year	Remarks
ANM	Church Bight	1960	
ANM	Lake Kathleen	1960	
ANM	Pybus Bay	1960	
PRD	DeBoer Lake	1962	
YRD	Harlequin Lake (N/S)	1962	Day Use Only
YRD	Tanis Mesa (N/S)	1962	
PRD	Salt Chuck East	1963/ 1972	Moved to current site 1972 and greatly modified w/side addition
WRD	Mallard Slough	1963/ 1980	Greatly modified w/side addition in 1980
WRD	Mount Flemer	1963	
WRD	Mount Rynda	1963	
WRD	Shakes Slough #2	1963	
WRD	Twin Lakes	1963	Moved to current site in 1985
ANM	East Florence	1964	
PRD	Breiland Slough	1964	
PRD	Harvey Lake	1964	
SIT	Goulding Lake	1964	
WRD	Garnet Ledge	1964	Determined eligible 2010, to be replaced
WRD	Anan Bay	1965	Determined eligible 2009, replaced in 2012
WRD	Berg Bay	1965	Scheduled to be replaced in 2013
SRD	Kook Lake	1966	
PRD	Devil's Elbow	1967	
PRD	Castle River	1968/ 1982	Moved from Petersburg Creek 1982 and greatly modified w/side addition
PRD	Kah Sheets Lake	1969/ 1989	Partially reconstructed 1989 and greatly modified w/side addition

Table 5. Chugach National Forest: A-frame cabins constructed between 1960-1971

District	Cabin Name	Year	Remarks
GRD	Shrode Lake	1967/ 2008	Major modifications 2008
GRD	Pigot Bay	1967/ 2008	Major modifications 2008
SRD	Trout Lake	1968	Determined not eligible 2010, to be replaced
CRD	Hook Point	1969	

### **Pan Abode**

Pan Abode is a brand name for a company located in Richmond, British Columbia, Canada and Renton, Washington, United States. The company opened in 1948 and quickly developed a reputation for building summer homes and camp accommodations. In 1950 a patent was awarded to Pan Abode for their “lock joint corner system” design. Using western red cedar from their own timber stands, they mill the logs in their own mills.

The cedar log is milled so that no log contains the heart center or core of the tree. This reduces cracking and splitting by 95 percent (Pan Abode 2009).

Known in the recreational facilities handbook as design No. 29B, Pan Abode cabins typify Forest Service public recreation use cabins. Their uniform construction and ease of assembly made them popular with Forest Service personnel as a cabin to assemble quickly in the field (personal communication with Steve Hennig 2009). On the Tongass



Figure 30. East Creek Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District, ca. 1966.

National Forest, the Ketchikan Ranger District constructed Pan Abode cabins exclusively.

The design that was contracted to Pan Abode by the Forest Service has had slight variations over the past 47 years. Overall the appearance of a Pan Abode is very distinct as a type. In particular the “lock joint corner system” is a distinguishing feature in the overall design. The Tongass National Forest constructed 46 Pan Abode cabins between 1960 and 1971. The Chugach National Forest constructed 10 Pan Abode cabins during this same time period. Most of these are still in use today although a few have been replaced or decommissioned. A list of these cabins and their construction dates according to the Infra database are located in Tables 6 and 7.

Three cabin plans for the Outlying Cabin 29B were located during this study. These plans are all housed in the flat file found in the basement of the Regional Office federal building in Juneau. No plan makes any claim to being associated with Pan-Abode.

- Outlying Cabin Plate 29B drawn by E.H. Stone and approved by Richard W. Wilke on July 23, 1963. Cabin dimensions in this plan are 12' x 14' with an arch on the side elevation porch overhang. No porch floor is drawn.
- Outlying Cabin design number 29B-1 drawn by Ron Wood and approved on April 27, 1964. Cabin dimensions in this plan are 12' x 12' plan with no porch overhang or porch.
- Outlying Cabin design number 29B drawn by W.G. Ferguson in April of 1984 and approved in December of 1985. This plan differs from the earlier plan by having a door on both the front and rear elevations. There is the same arched porch overhang as in the 1964 plan, but an L-shaped porch that wraps around the left side of the structure is shown. The window placement also differs in this plan. Although outside the period of significance, mention is made of this plan to assist field reviewers in distinguishing cabin designs.

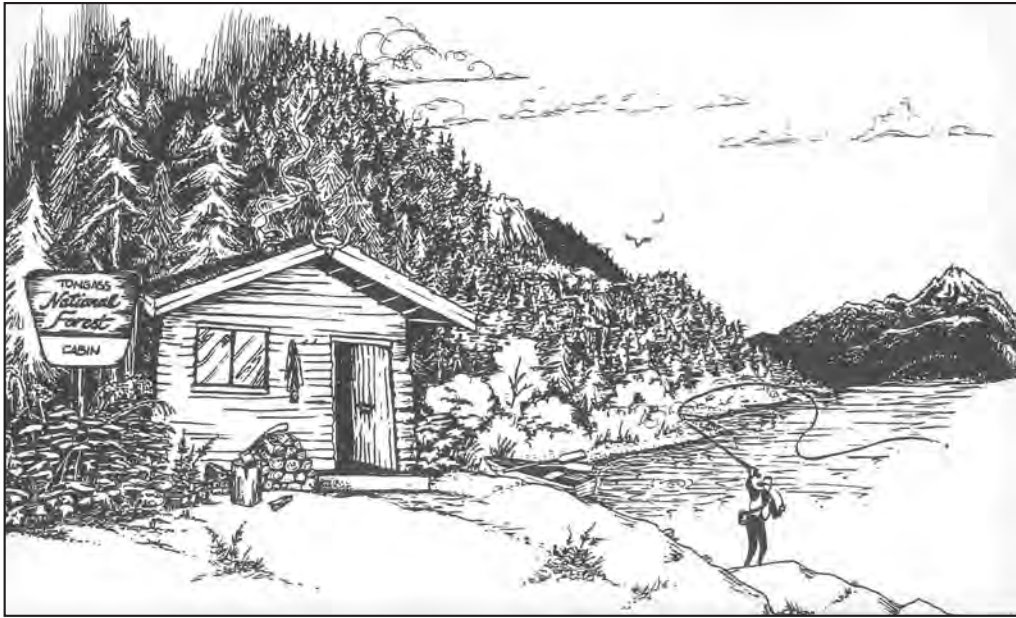


Figure 31. Artist rendering of recreation cabin.

### **Pan Abode Architectural Information**

These exterior descriptions are based on the Outlying Cabin Plate 29B (1963). This plan does not specifically state that it is Pan Abode; however, the drawing is consistent with standing Pan Abode structures and depicts the “lock joint corner system.”

Pan Abode cabins can have one of three basic rectangular footprints depending on the plan they were constructed from; 14' x 12', 12' x 12' or 12.9' x 14'. They have one main floor, with four complete walls, one door and generally at least four windows. The walls are constructed of cedar logs that arrive pre-cut.

### **Building Characteristics That Typify the Period of Significance**

For the Pan Abode cabin, the use of the pre-cut interlocking cedar logs is a very important building characteristic. Also, the offset front door entry, either no porch or one no wider than the roof overhang, the use of corrugated green or brown aluminum roofing, and single windows on each elevation. Details of these characteristics are as follows:

#### **◇ Structural**

- **Front Façade:** It has one door and one window; the door is usually on the left side and the window is on the right. The front façade measures 13'-1½" across in cabins that follow the 29B plan. Also distinctive to the 29B plan is a decorative use of the corner joint system that creates a line next to the door,



However, this was not always used. A fascia covers the purlins. There is a small louvered vent in the gable just below the roof line.

- **Rear Façade:** Similar in appearance to the front façade but has one centered window and no door. The rear façade has the same small louvered vent in the gable just below the roof line. In the 29B plan the rear façade measures 12' across. Also visible are the lock and corner joint system.
- **Side Elevation:** Depending on the plan, the side elevation may have a "jog" in the wall. This is created by a small wall on the interior of the building that creates an archway separating the bunk bed area. One window is present on each side elevation. Particular to the 29B plan is the arch that cantilevers the roof out, creating a covered porch.

#### ◇ **Foundation**

- Materials have varied over the years including wood pilings, concrete pier blocks, and sometimes Styrofoam blocking. These were spaced three to four feet apart.
- Floor joist system consisted of 4" x 6" girders spaced three to four feet.

#### ◇ **Roof**

- Roofing is embossed brown or green enameled aluminum.

#### ◇ **Windows**

- The one window on the front façade is 3' 6" above the lowest sill log and is 3' tall. No measurement is given as to the width of the window. The plan indicates that the window is a two paned sliding window. Photos from early cabins depict a window with a wooden frame. The rear window is exactly the same as the front. On the side façades there was one window generally on both sides at the same height as the windows on the front façade. The side façade window does not open. It has three panes of glass stacked horizontally.

#### ◇ **Doors**

- One door on the front façade is present. The plans do not indicate the measurement of the door.

#### ◇ **Floor**

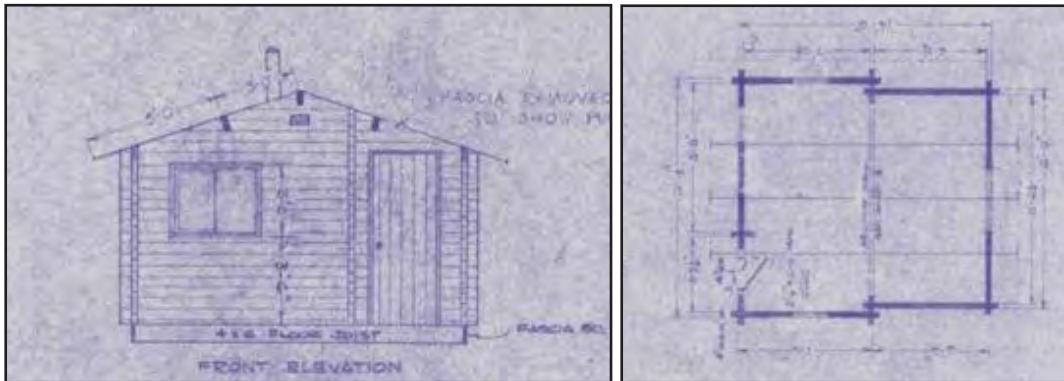
- Floor decking was predominately composed of plywood; however, car decking was sometimes used.

◇ **Porch**

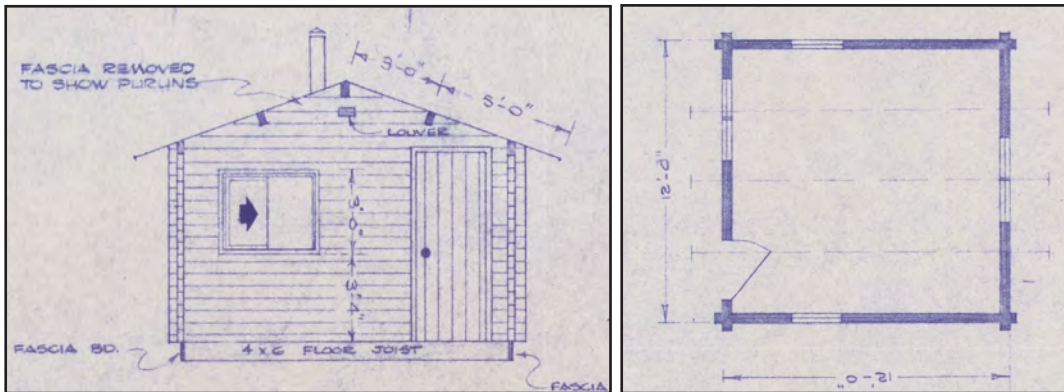
- Porch decking is not indicated in the plan drawings. Based on early photos, it appears cabin porches were built subsequent to initial construction.

◇ **Finishes**

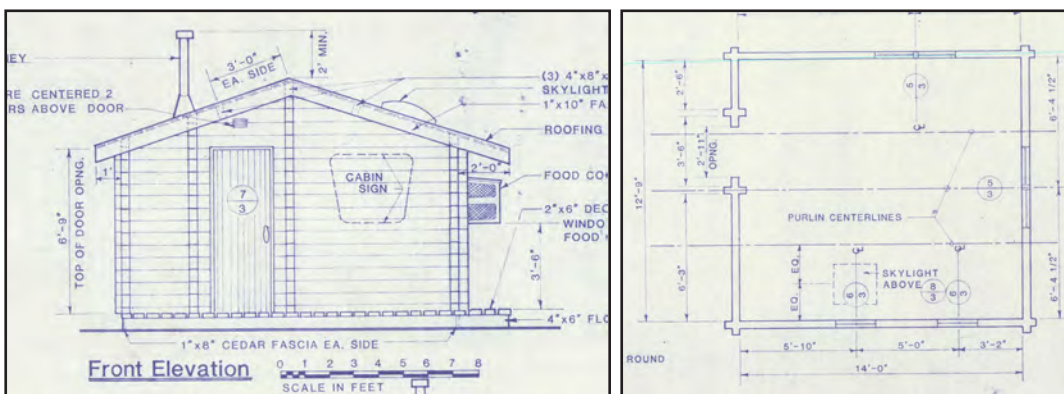
- Forest Products Lab (F.P.L.) stain was required on all exposed wood.



**Top: Outlying Cabin Plate 29B 1963:** Front elevation detail and floor plan. 2 x 14 x 13½, not including porch. Has a jog in the side wall where the floor cantilevers out over the foundation allowing the front half of the floor plan to be larger than the rear.

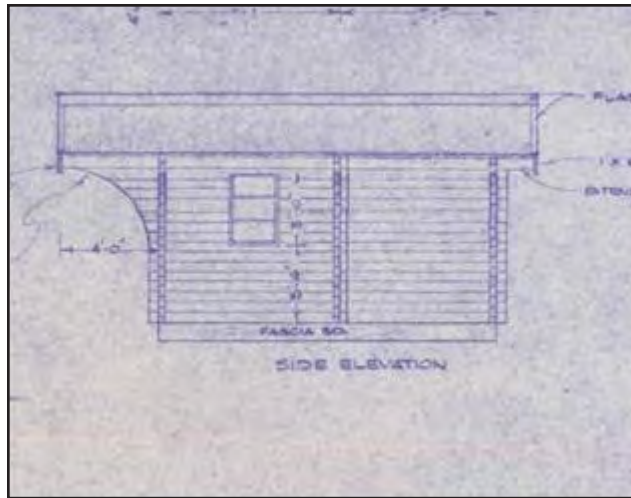


**Middle: Outlying Cabin Plate 29BI 1964:** Side elevation detail 12 x 12; no porch in design. Floor plan is rectangular with no jog as in the 29B plan.



**Bottom: Outlying Cabin design number 29-B 1985:** Front elevation detail and floor plan 12'9" x 14' detail.

Figure 32. Pan Abode: Comparison of plan types, front façade and floor plan.



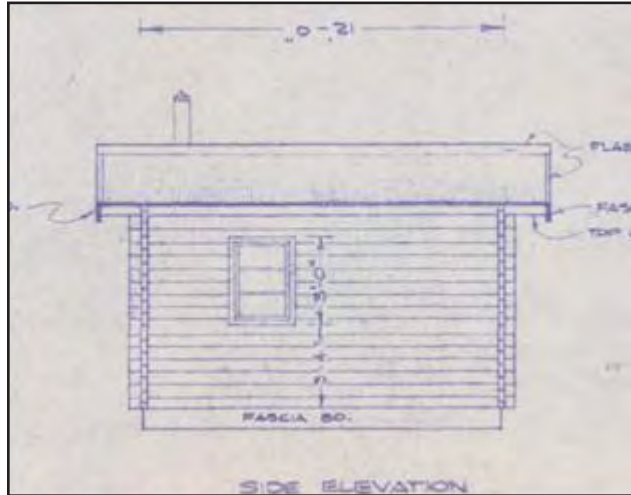
**Top: Outlying Cabin Plate 29B 1963**

Side elevation detail.

12' x 14' x 13' 1/2" not including porch.

Has a jog in the side wall where the floor cantilevers out over the foundation allowing the front half of the floor plan to be larger than the rear.

No stovepipe in drawing, however, in other details, it is in the front of the cabin by the front door.



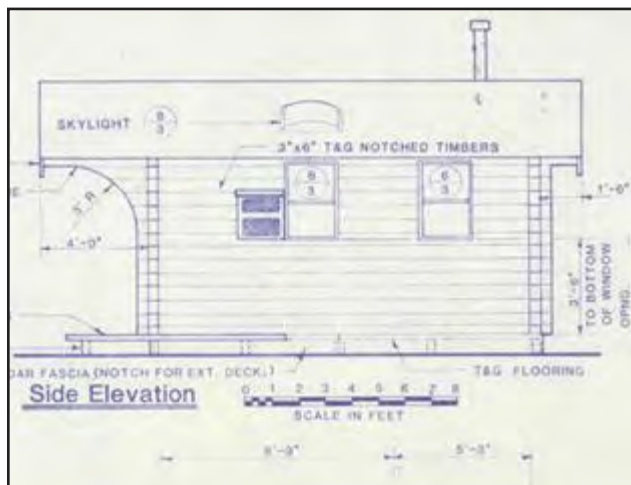
**Middle: Outlying Cabin Plate 29B 1 1964**

Side elevation detail.

12' X 12' no porch in design.

Floor plan is rectangular with no jog as in the 29B plan.

Also stove is in the front of cabin near door.



**Bottom: Outlying Cabin design number 29-B 1985**

Side elevation detail.

12'9" x 14' detail.

Figure 33. Pan Abode: Comparison of plan types, side façade.

Table 6. Tongass National Forest: Pan Abode cabins constructed between 1960-1971.

District	Cabin Name	Date	Remarks
ANM	Lake Alexander	1960	
ANM	Little Shaheen	1960	
ANM	Jim's Lake	1962	
KMRD	Red Alders	1962	
WRD	Sergief Island	1962	
WRD	Shakes Slough #1	1962	
CRD	Black Bear Lake	1963/ 1979	Moved in 1979 and major modifications made in 1999
KMRD	Jordan Lake	1963	Large covered deck added
TBRD	Barnes Lake	1963	Large covered deck added
WRD	Koknuk	1963	
KMRD	Big Goat	1964	Safety use only
CRD	Josephine Lake	1964	
KMRD	Checats	1964	
KMRD	Plenty Cutthroat	1964	
KMRD	Wilson Narrows	1964	Large covered deck added
TBRD	Staney Creek	1964	Large covered deck added
KMRD	Beaver	1965	Reconstructed in 2001
KMRD	Ella Narrows	1965	
KMRD	Hugh Smith	1965	
TBRD	Honker Lake	1965	Large covered deck added
TBRD	Sarkar Lake	1965/ 1990	Moved in 1990, large covered deck added
TBRD	Sweetwater Lake	1965	Large covered deck added
WRD	Marten Lake	1965	None
WRD	Virginia Lake	1965	Reconstructed in 1996 - fully accessible, very large addition
SRD	Plotnikof Lake	1966	
SRD	White Sulphur Springs	1966	Determined eligible 2011, to be replaced
TBRD	Karta Lake	1966	
CRD	Kegan Creek	1967	Large covered deck added
KMRD	Heckman Lake	1967	Large covered deck added
KMRD	McDonald Lake	1967	Large covered deck added
KMRD	Reflection Lake	1967	
KMRD	Winstanley Lake	1967	
SRD	Sitkoh Lake West	1967	
TBRD	Shipley Bay	1967	Large covered deck added
KMRD	Rainbow Lake	1968	
TBRD	Salmon Bay Lake	1969	New deck



Table 7. Chugach National Forest: Pan Abode cabins constructed between 1960-1971

District	Cabin Name	Date	Remarks
SRD	Crescent Lake	1963	
SRD	Upper Paradise	1964	Covered arctic entrance added 1994
SRD	East Creek	1965	
SRD	Swan Lake	1966	
CRD	Log Jam Bay	1970	
CRD	Double Bay	1970	Was previously located at Anderson Bay
SRD	Caribou Creek	1970	



Figure 34. Upper Paradise Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District.



Figure 35. Honker Lake Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Thorne Bay Ranger District.



Figure 36. Virginia Lake Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Wrangell Ranger District.



Figure 37. Karta Lake Cabin, Tongass National Forest, Thorne Bay Ranger District.



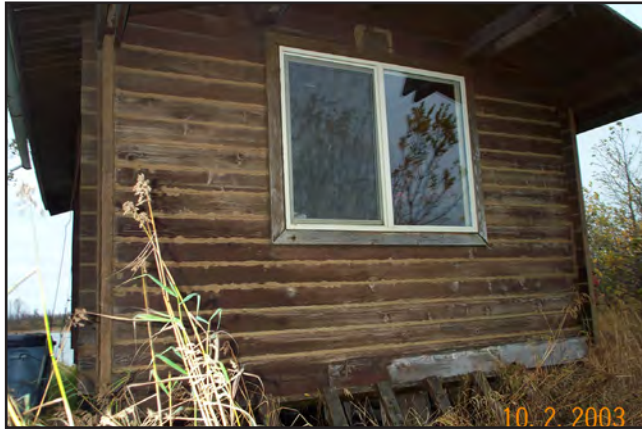


Figure 38. Tiedman's Slough Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Cordova Ranger District.



Figure 39. Caribou Creek Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District.



Figure 40. Romig Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District.



Figure 41. East Creek Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District.



Figure 42. Swan Lake Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District.



## **Evaluating Alaska Region Public Recreation Cabins**

A public recreation cabin will most likely be eligible under criteria A or C. As always the integrity of a property is part of determining eligibility as a historic property. There were multiple properties constructed from the same standard design, also necessitating evaluation of a cabin in comparison with others of the same type. The tables included in the property type section are provided to assist in establishing which cabins may retain enough integrity to be eligible.

Why consider these buildings? Because they were a large-scale continuation of a national effort to provide developed recreation opportunities to the public and are a unique manifestation of that movement in the Alaska Region between 1960 and 1971.

### ***National Register Criteria for Evaluation***

#### **Criterion A**

To meet criterion A, an eligible property must be “associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our nation’s history.” This significance can be at the local, state or national importance.

The development of a Forest Service recreational built environment is a broad pattern of our national history. This is reflected in the properties constructed by the CCC and the acknowledgement that they are National Register eligible properties. The Period of Significance for the CCC, however, has a clearly definable time period with a beginning and an end marked by specific legislation that allowed for the program’s existence. While the Alaska Region cabins exist within a similar broad historical context of developed recreation, their period of significance is less definable. The beginning is easy, 1960, when the first cabins were built. The end date of 1971 is an arbitrary ending date based on political events outside the context of developed recreation; that of ANCSA and land ownership questions particular to Alaska. Cabin construction resumed again after a short break and has continued through today using the same or similar building designs originating in the 1960s. There was a fervor surrounding recreation in American culture during the 1960s that is particularly related to the post WWII effects of American prosperity. In the 1960s recreation became a national pastime for a growing middle class. The ability for the public to have adequate, comfortable amenities became a concern and responsibility of land managing agencies: federal, State and municipal. Having recreational opportunities for the public became entwined in the economic growth of a particular state or region. This relationship continues and has evolved into an important piece of Alaska’s economy.

In particular, the A-frame design can immediately evoke the feeling of the 1960s even though its design use has spanned all successive decades. The period between 1960 and 1971 was the first initial push to provide dispersed developed recreation cabins in the Alaska Region. The cabins represent Alaska's reaction to this national recreation movement making them more likely to be eligible at the State or local level. At present, the cabins dating from this time period are not 50 years old, although a few are close, which makes it challenging to demonstrate their exceptional importance. This document clearly identifies other properties within the State that reflect the same significance and historic associations for comparative purposes. The following section discusses the aspects of integrity as they pertain to the public recreation cabins. Because of the youth and multiplicity of these cabins, it is necessary to be stringent on the integrity assessments as they pertain to particular properties.

### **Criterion B**

To meet criterion B, an eligible property must be "associated with the lives of persons significant in our past." It is unlikely that any of the Forest Service built public recreation cabins, of the A-frame and Pan-abode variety, could meet this criterion. However, it is necessary to explore this option and acknowledge if it does or does not pertain to a particular cabin.

### **Criterion C**

To meet criterion C, an eligible property must "embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction."

A property eligible under this criterion must meet one of these listed elements. Of these elements in criterion C, recreation cabins "embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction" this element refers to "the way in which a property was conceived, designed, or fabricated by a people or culture in past periods of history." Between 1960 and 1971 there was a push by the Forest Service to build recreation cabins in the Alaska Region. The resulting public recreation cabins represent the Forest Service's acceptance of a shift from rustic hand-hewn architecture to the use of modern materials and the prefabrication industry (see pg. 26). This was an official acceptance and is stated in the United States Forest Service Built Environment Guide (USDA 2001). This criterion could apply to either an A-frame or a Pan Abode cabin within the context of the Forest Service built environment for recreation.

Modern materials and the prefabrication industry are seen in the use of plywood and Plexiglas in the A-frame cabins and the prefabricated kit design of the Pan Abode.

Ironically while these do represent a shift in the method of construction by the Forest Service, these materials have become so common that it is very difficult to view their use as a contributing factor to exceptional importance. These properties all relate to each other by their function, dates of construction, choice of materials and technology. An exceptionally important example would have to possess all seven aspects of integrity. Thus we can “guard against the listing of properties of passing contemporary interests” as stated in the National Register Bulletin #15 under Criterion Consideration G.

Consideration has been given that the cabins program, as a whole, represents a “significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.” This would qualify them for consideration as a district. As a district, it could be said the system of cabins constructed by the Alaska Region “possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of buildings united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.” The cabins represent “one principle activity” that are an “arrangement of functionally related properties.” However, a district is excluded from being eligible if its definable geographic boundary is the “limits of current parcels of ownership, management or planning boundaries.” Due the fact that the geographical boundaries of the recreation cabins are defined by those of a federal land managing agency, the recreation cabins are not eligible as a district with definable geographic boundaries.

### **Criterion D**

To meet criterion D, an eligible property must “have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.” It is very unlikely that any Forest Service built public recreation cabin will meet this criterion.

### ***Integrity***

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance. As stated previously, to be eligible a historic property must possess **integrity** of *location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association*. Integrity in this regard is defined as in a state of being unimpaired, undivided, or complete. A historic property may not possess all seven aspects of integrity, nor are all seven of equal importance, depending on the type of property. However, the younger the property the more of these it should possess. Until these properties are much older, they should possess all seven aspects of integrity. The following definitions are taken from National Register bulletins.

## Location

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed. Integrity of location is very important in conveying the significance of the Alaska Region's recreation cabins. These recreation cabins would not convey their significance if they were anywhere but a location that provided solitude in the wild Alaskan environment. Therefore, any changes in the location that alter the experience originally intended when the cabin was originally constructed can degrade a cabin's integrity. An example of this would be moving the cabin to an urban or populated area. However, moving a cabin from one lake to another would not necessarily degrade its integrity.

## Design

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure and style of a property. Integrity of design is a highly important consideration when evaluating a Forest Service public recreation cabin. Many kinds of repairs and alterations have occurred to these properties over the years. Because of the multiplicity of properties constructed from the same set of plans, it is necessary to identify which cabins represent an unaltered representation of their original design. In the case of A-frame cabins most, if not all, of the very early designs have been demolished. Continued and needed maintenance stands to be a threat to the original integrity of structures that are left as roofs, floors, windows, doors, etc. are replaced and porches expanded. In order for a public recreation cabin to be eligible, it must retain a high percentage of its original design or have repairs done in-kind with the original design.



Figure 43. Paradise Lake Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District Example of location and setting.



Figure 44. Crow Pass Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Glacier Ranger District, ca. 1970.



The Pan Abode structures are more likely to withstand the test of time due to their construction of cedar. However, many alterations have occurred to these building types also; extensive covered porches and extended decks were not part of the original designs. In order to justify that these structures are eligible, it would have to be demonstrated that they are of exceptional importance due to being a rare example of a cabin that maintains its original design integrity, and compared with other properties of its same kind, it is a rare example.

### Setting

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property (Figures 43 and 44). The setting of these cabins plays a very important role in their historical significance, because the setting was the main reason for the placement and construction of the cabin. A public recreation cabin function is directly tied to its setting, so it follows that changes in these settings would impair the ability for the property to convey its significance. Changes in setting can include the construction of roads to access the cabin, logging or even natural changes to the environment that occurred after the property was constructed.

### Materials

Materials are the physical elements from which the building was constructed. The construction materials dating from the period of its historic significance must be present and intact. If these materials have been removed or replaced, not in-kind, then the property's integrity of materials is degraded. This would include changes to the exterior siding, roofing materials, doors, windows, etc. of public recreation cabins (Figure 45). At this point in the lifespan of these cabins, continued replacement of materials is



**Above** and **below** are the same cabin, photo dates unknown.

Notice the door has been changed from the original. This is an example of degraded integrity of materials.



Figure 45. Hook Point Cabin, Chugach National Forest, Cordova Ranger District.

foreseeable as necessary due to the nature of the cabin construction, especially in regards to A-frame cabins. If the replacements are done in-kind then this would not affect the cabin's integrity.

### **Workmanship**

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history and prehistory. This pertains to a technology of a craft which in the case of a historic structure would generally include tooling, carving, painting, graining, turning and joinery. The before mentioned workmanship is not present in the recreation cabins. These cabins were constructed from standard designs intended to be assembled by seasonal and or volunteer crews supervised by a permanent employee. The workmanship represented would be of that nature; simple. This type of workmanship is most likely going to be present in these cabins.

### **Feeling**

Feeling is the ability for a property to evoke a sense of the historical time period in which it was constructed. The A-frame is an iconic pop culture design from the 1960s. However the Forest Service continued to use this design well into the present as seen in the Deer Mountain Cabin completed in 2008 on the Ketchikan Ranger District. While the A-frame is very capable of evoking the feeling of the 1960s, it is very difficult to ascertain the ability for the Pan Abode to evoke a sense of their historical time period. This is due to the continued use of the design over the decades beyond the period of significance. Because of this, feeling would become a less important aspect of integrity contributing to the property's ability to convey its significance.

### **Association**

Association links a historic event or person with a historic property. A property must be the place where the event occurred, or where a significant person was associated. This type of association could only be determined for a public recreation cabin on a case-by-case evaluation.

## **Synthesis**

Precedence is limited in reviewing these types of properties for eligibility to the National Register and there is much resistance to even doing so. In developing this historic context, it became apparent that the earliest examples of the A-frame cabins in the recreation cabins program are quickly disappearing, without systematic documentation. There are currently 27 A-frame cabins still in use in the Alaska Region. These remaining A-frame cabins have, on occasion, been modified or have had original materials replaced, yet still maintain their basic design. This is also the case in regards to the Pan Abode cabins. Consistently it has been brought to the attention of the author that these structures were not built to last and were intended to be torn down and replaced as maintenance and use dictated. "There is nothing special about their construction" they say. While this may be true, it does not exclude them from review under the National Historic Preservation Act.

What the public wants from these cabins is changing. In the early days of the Dingell-Johnson cabins, a rustic, basic structure that provided just enough shelter from the weather was sufficient. Attitudes toward recreation have changed over the years. The public wants more interior natural light with ample covered deck space outside. This has led to additions and modifications that may not be in-kind with the historic design of a building.

Some public recreation cabins have retained their integrity of location, setting, design and materials. The development of the recreational built environment is a broad pattern of our national history. The Forest Service did make an intentional shift from rustic architecture to the use of modern materials. This switch, therefore, represents a distinctive characteristic of a type, period and method of construction. The difficult part of the equation is an individual cabin standing alone in the woods may not have the ability to convey its significance.

Further field review is needed to identify which public use cabins are possibly exceptionally important examples of their property type. In order for an evaluator to make this determination, they must have a way to compare the individual property they are reviewing against all properties of the same type.

## **Needs Assessment**

Quality photo documentation of the public recreation cabins needs to be emphasized. In the course of this research photographs were compiled with some effort. These photos are useful when comparing similar property types. Presently photographs are scattered across districts and sometimes their quality is poor. Shots of all façades do not

exist. Standards for how photographs of cabins are taken should be followed so the visual historic record of these structures is maintained. This is not to suggest that HABS/HAER<sup>9</sup> standards be implemented, just that a better job needs to be done. Photographs of angles on all elevations, clean uncluttered views of cabins, and all aspects of each façade would be ideal. Understandably, the practical ability for this achievement is impaired by terrain and vegetation restrictions. But admittedly, the standard has gone down.

Further examination of properties will identify which properties maintain a high level of integrity. From this information, perhaps a representative sample could be actively preserved and interpreted to the public as an example of the recreational cabin history in the Alaska Region. A web based interpretive format may be well-suited to this situation. In cases where cabins are determined to be beyond repair, mitigation through documentation could suffice. A recreation cabin survey form has been included in the appendix to assist field reviewers with assessments.

## **Conclusion**

The public recreation cabins have provided nearly 50 years of enjoyment on public lands in Alaska. Their locations and settings are spectacular, offering a basic comforting retreat from all kinds of weather. Their exceptional importance rests more in what they provide than in how they are constructed. When these cabins were first constructed, outdoor equipment was heavy and cumbersome to carry; fuel was inexpensive. The cost of maintaining some cabins far exceeds the use many cabins currently receive from the public today. However, they have now become part of the Forest Service's historic built environment and should be recorded and preserved, if not on-the ground then through documentation.

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<sup>9</sup>Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record: a very detail-oriented system of measured drawings, large format photographs, and written histories managed by the Library of Congress.



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## Appendix I: Glossary of Architectural Terms

Arris – Sharp edge where two surfaces meet at an angle.

Articulation – Articulation is the manner or method of jointing parts such that each part is clear and distinct in relation to the others, even though joined.

Batten – See “Board and Batten.” A small board or strip of wood used for various building purposes, as to cover joints between boards, supports, shingles, or roofing tiles, or provide a base for lathing.

Board and Batten – Siding consisting of wide boards or plywood sheets set vertically whose joints are covered by narrow strips of wood (battens) over joints or cracks.

Baluster – The post supporting a handrail.

Balustrade – Railing at a stairway, porch or roof.

Bargeboard – Decorative boards located at the end of a gable.

Battered Wall – Wall leaning inward from its base rather than outward.

Cantilever – Projecting overhang.

Casement Window – Window hinged on the side that opens like a door.

Clapboard – Long thin overlapping wooden boards placed horizontally on the outside of a building.

Coping – Top course of a wall.

Cornice – A horizontal molded projection at the top of a building or wall.

Dimension Stone – Large blocks of stone used in foundations.

Dormer Window – Window that projects from a sloping roof.

Double-Hung Window – Window with two sashes sliding up and down.

Eave – Lowest projecting part of a sloped roof.

Façade – Exterior side of a building, usually the front.

Fascia – Flat vertical board used to hide the ends of roof rafters.

Fenestration – Design and placement of windows.

Gable – Upper triangular portion of a wall between the edges of a roof.

Gable Roof – Shaped in an upside-down “V.”

Gambrel Roof – Double-pitched with end walls pointed at top.

Hipped Roof – Slopes upward from all four sides.

Imbrication – Overlapping of shingles or tiles.

Jamb – Sidepiece on doors and windows.

Jerkinhead – Gable roof with hipped end; also called hipped gable.

Jutty – Upper story projecting beyond the one below; also called jetty.

Lintel – Horizontal structural member that spans an opening.

Lites – Individual panes of glass.

Lug Sill – One that extends beyond the bottom of a window.

Mullion – Vertical member separating two or more windows.

Muntin – Vertical or horizontal divisions between lites in a window or door.

Mutule – Block under the soffit of a cornice.

Rubble – Undressed broken stone used in construction.

Rusticated – Stonework with beveled or angled edges.

Sash – Frame in which the glass panes or a window are set.

Sill – Bottom member of a window or door.

Soffit – Underside of an eave, lintel or other horizontal element.

Spindle – Turned vertical wooden element used in stair railings and porch trim.

Stoop – Small porch leading to entrance of a house.

Transom – Small window above a door.

Uncoursed Masonry – Not set in layers; no continuous horizontal joints

## **Appendix II:A Brief History of Plywood and Plexiglas**

Because the cabins in Alaska could not have been constructed so quickly and inexpensively without the advent of plywood and Plexiglas, a brief discussion of these modern materials deserves attention.

### **Plywood**

In 1905 Gustav Carlson had the idea to laminate wood panels from a variety of Pacific Northwest softwoods. Glue was spread with paint brushes and house jacks were used as presses. Using this process several panels were made and resulted in a product called “3-ply veneer work.” The small wooden box factory, Portland Manufacturing Company, was ready to present this product at the World’s Fair. This early form of plywood was well-received by the public. By 1907, Portland Manufacturing was able to produce 420 panels a day due to a mechanized glue spreader and a sectional hand press. The new product was limited to indoor uses due to the fact that the adhesive used was not waterproof. In 1934, a chemist at Harbor Plywood Corporation, Dr. James Nevin, developed a fully waterproof adhesive that opened a new market of outdoor uses for plywood.

Prior to WWII, the growing industrial market for plywood had been on the rise. During the War plywood was used to construct PT boats, assault ships, airplanes, barracks, military buildings, shipping crates, footlockers and countless other military applications ([http://www.apawood.org/level\\_b.cfm?content=srv\\_med\\_new\\_bkgd\\_plycen](http://www.apawood.org/level_b.cfm?content=srv_med_new_bkgd_plycen)).

### **Plexiglas**

The acrylic resins that are used in Plexiglas had their beginning in 1931. Transparent sheets of acrylic were used during WWII as bullet resistant windshields in warplanes. The manipulative nature of the material coupled with its strength and minimal weight has made it a successful and desired product in construction industry. Plexiglas is a trademark name for a product that is now the standard for use as windows, skylights, safety glazing, electrical and chemical applications (<http://www.rplastics.com/plexhistory.html>).



## Appendix III: Recreation Cabin Survey Form

Recreation Cabin Survey Form				
Cabin Name				Year Constructed
Surveyors Name(s)		Date	Design No.	

**Location:** Is the cabin in its original location (salt water, mountain lake)?

Yes	No

Comments:

**Design:** Is the original design still easily seen and is not subordinate to added building elements (expanded decks/porches)?

Yes	No

Comments:

**Setting:** Has the setting (physical environment) changed (logging, roads, etc.)?

Yes	No

Comments:

**Materials:** Are most of the original materials still present (Plexiglas, Dutch doors, siding)?

Yes	No

Comments:

**Feeling:** Does cabin evoke sense of historical time period in which it was constructed (1960 – 1971)?

Yes	No

Comments:

**Association:** Is the cabin associated with a historic event or person at the local or State level?

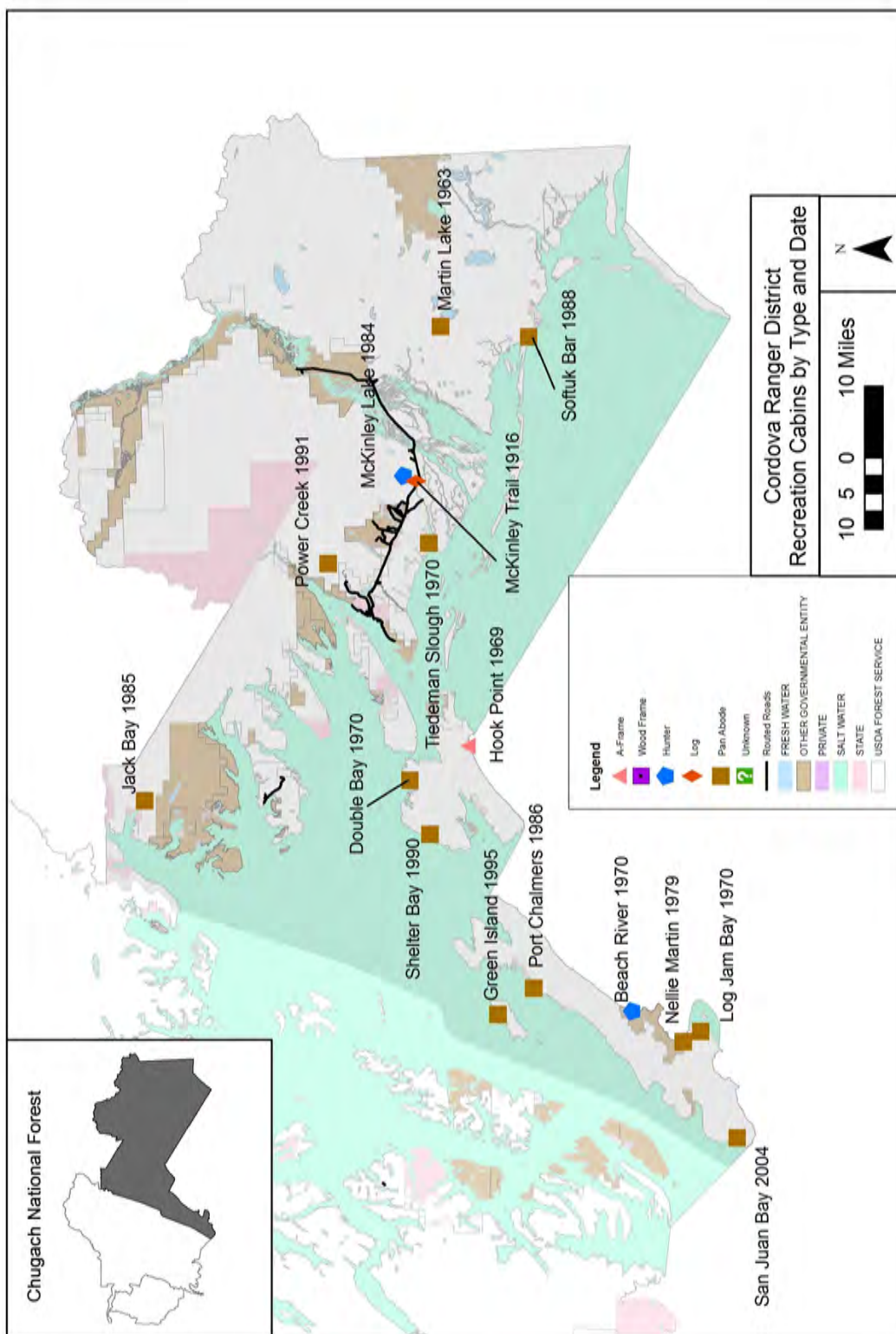
Yes	No

Comments:

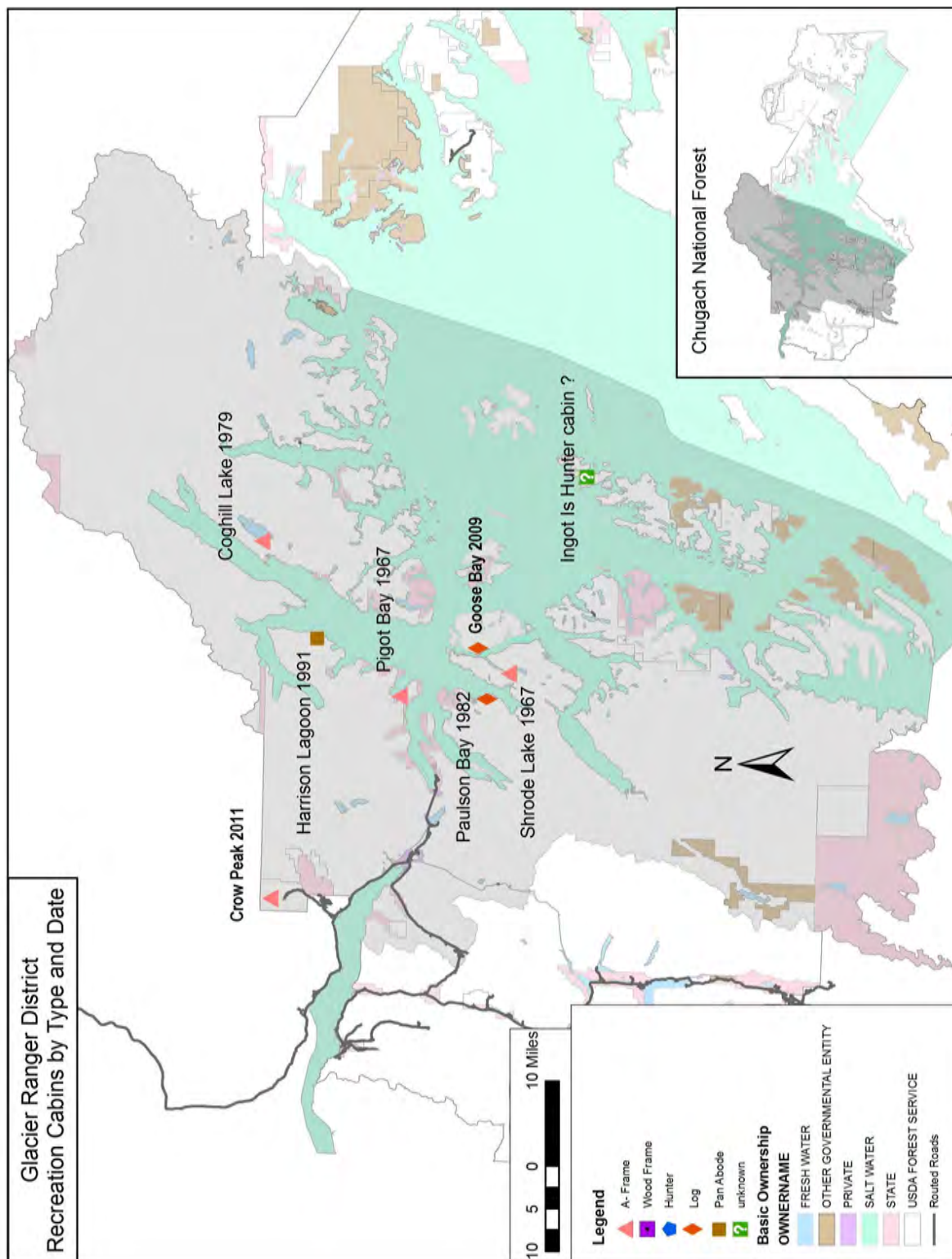
Physical Description						
Features	Material	Dimensions	Condition	Changes	In Kind	
					Yes	No
<i>Roof</i>						
<i>Walls</i>						
<i>Windows</i>						
<i>Door</i>						
<i>Chimney &amp; Heating</i>						
<i>Porch</i>						
<i>Foundation</i>						
<i>Interior Layout</i>						
<i>Additions</i>						
<i>Other</i>						

## **Appendix IV: Maps and Tables of Cabins by Date and Type**



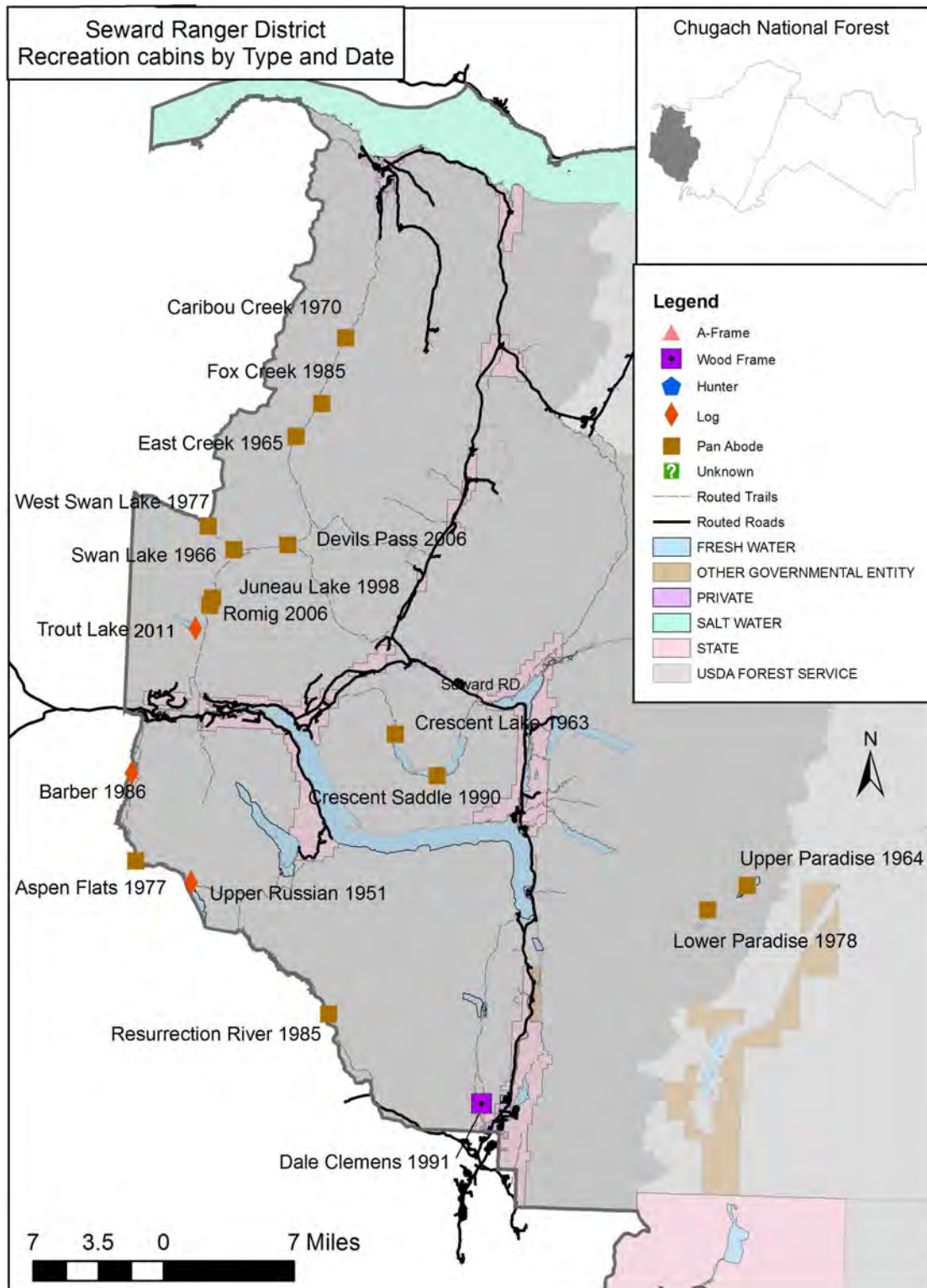


CNF: Cordova Ranger District (CRD) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Type	Remarks
McKinley Trail	1916	Log	Major rehabilitation completed in 2010.
Hook Point	1969	A-frame	New door.
Beach River	1969	Hunter	
Double Bay	1969	Pan Abode	Cabin was previously located at Anderson Bay, moved to Double Bay in 1969, moved again 250 feet in 2001.
Log Jam Bay	1970	Pan Abode	Major maintenance done in 1984.
Tiedeman Slough	1970	Pan Abode	May have been built in 1967. New roof.
Nellie Martin River	1979	Pan Abode	May have been built in the mid-1960s. New roof and deck.
McKinley Lake	1984	Hunter	May have been built in 1966, but major changes in 1970, 1983, and 1988. Vertical board exterior. Very poor condition.
Jack Bay	1985	Pan Abode	Old Sawmill Bay Cabin, moved in 1985. Interior refurbished in 2008. New roof and deck. May have been built in the mid-1960s.
Port Chalmers	1986	Pan Abode	Cabin moved in 1988 from Eyak River. New enlarged windows. May have been built in 1964.
Softuk Bar	1988	Pan Abode	Cabin moved in 1988 from Canoe Pass. New roof and deck. May have been built in the mid-1960s.
Shelter Bay	1990	Pan Abode	
Power Creek	1991	Pan Abode	
Green Island	1995	Pan Abode	Replaced original cabin built in 1966, but 1,000 feet from old location, also built with accessible design.
San Juan Bay	2004	Pan Abode	Replaced original cabin built in 1971 that burned in 1988.
Martin Lake	2010	Pan Abode	1963 Pan Abode burned and a new cabin was built in 2010.

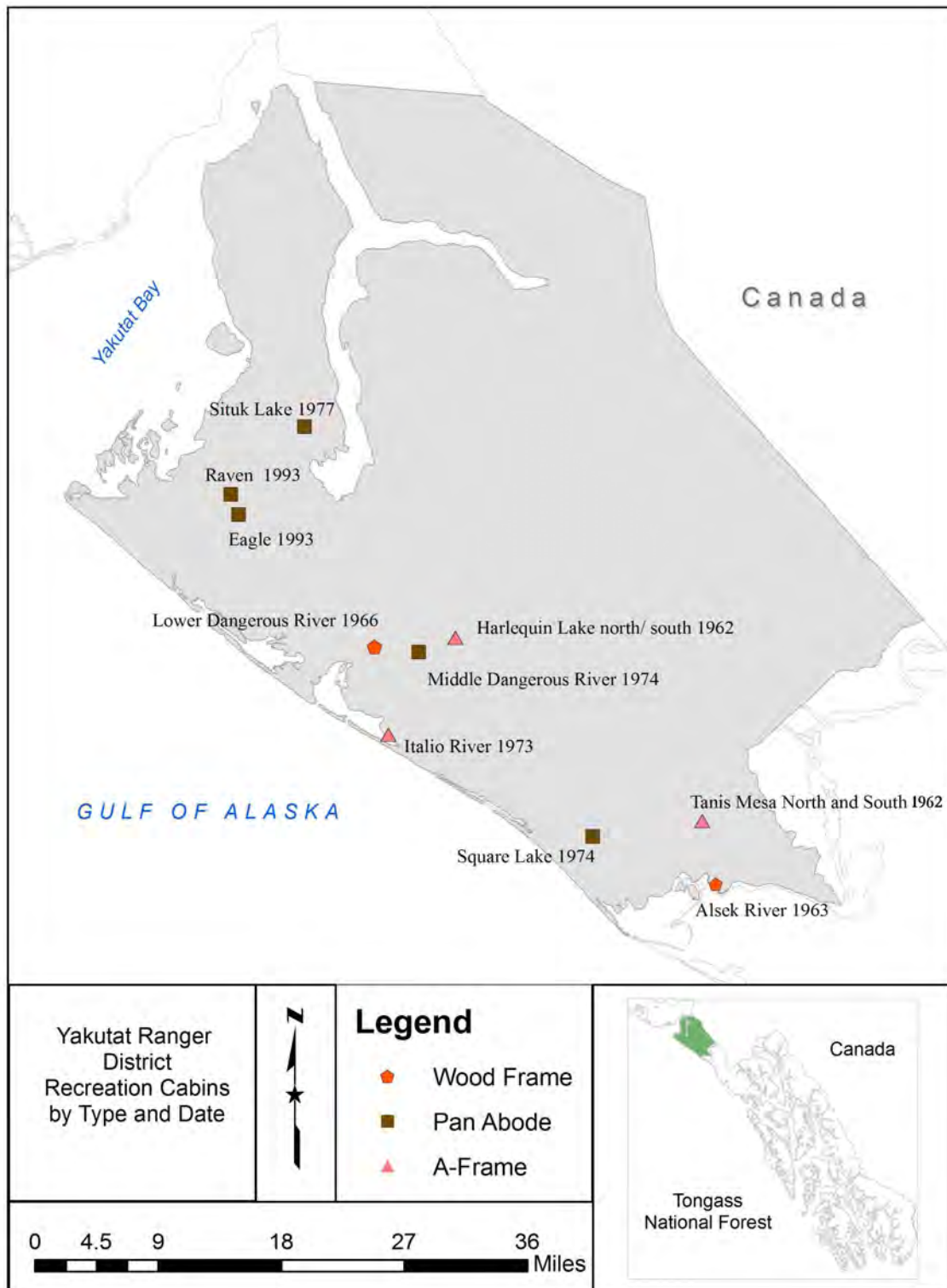


CNF: Glacier Ranger District (GRD) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Type	Remarks
Pigot Bay	1967	A-frame	Reconstructed with different design and materials in 2008. Not known if original cabin was removed and replaced or reconstructed.
Shrode Lake	1967	A-frame	Reconstructed with different design and materials in 2008. Not known if original cabin was removed and replaced or reconstructed.
Coghill Lake	1979	A-frame	Built with 29L 1963 A-frame plan.
Paulson Bay	1982	Log	
South Culross	1982	Log	Removed.
Harrison Lagoon	1991	Pan Abode	
Goose Bay	2009	Log	New cabin built to replace the South Culross Cabin.
Crow Peak	2011	A-frame	New A-frame replaced the Crow Pass Cabin built in 1969. Used the same design as the Pigot Bay and Shrode Lake Cabins.

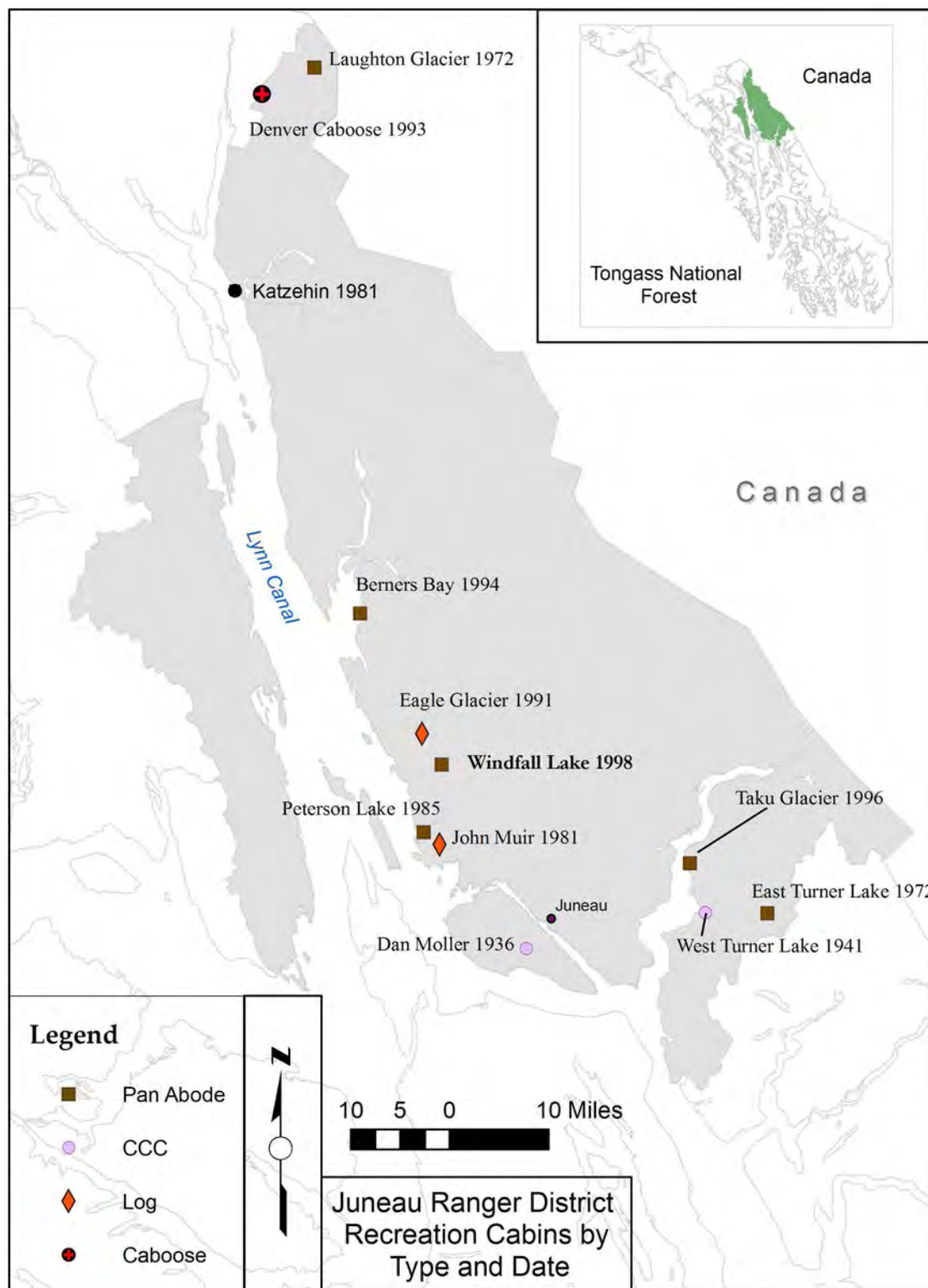




CNF: Seward Ranger District (SRD) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Type	Information
Upper Russian Lake	1951	Log	Cabin rehabilitated with in-kind materials in 2007.
Crescent Lake	1963	Pan Abode	New deck and door.
Upper Paradise Lake	1964	Pan Abode	New windows, arctic entrance added in 1994.
East Creek	1965	Pan Abode	New deck and door.
Swan Lake	1966	Pan Abode	New door, roof, and window trim.
Caribou Creek	1970	Pan Abode	New deck, door, roof, windows and trim in 2009.
Aspen Flats	1977	Pan Abode	New door, roof, and window trim.
West Swan Lake	1977	Pan Abode	New door, windows and trim. May have been built in 1966.
Lower Paradise Lake	1978	Pan Abode	New door, roof, and window trim.
Resurrection River	1985	Pan Abode	
Barber	1986	Log	
Crescent Saddle	1990	Pan Abode	
Dale Clemens	1991	Wood Frame	Recently renovated.
Juneau Lake	1998	Pan Abode	Original cabin burned to the ground in 1997. Replaced with a Pan Abode in 1998.
Devil's Pass	2006	Pan Abode	Original A-frame cabin built in 1966 replaced with a Pan Abode in 2006.
Romig	2006	Pan Abode	1976 Pan Abode replaced with new Pan Abode in 2006.
Fox Creek	2009	Pan Abode	1985 Pan Abode replaced with new Pan Abode in 2009.
Trout Lake	2011	Log	1966 A-frame replaced with 2-story log cabin in 2011.



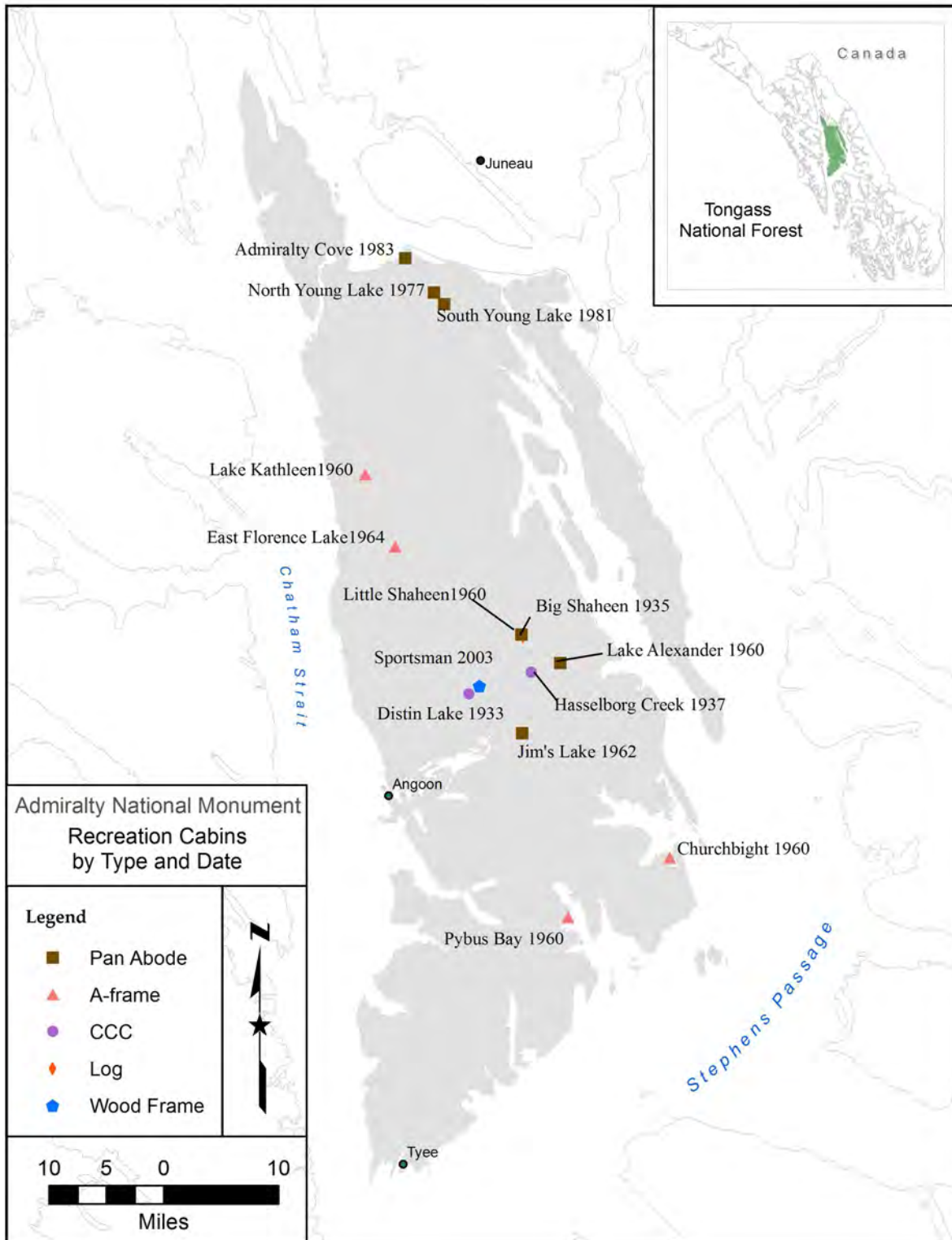
TNF: Yakutat Ranger District (YRD) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Type	Information
Harlequin Lake (North)	1962	A-frame	North and South cabins are one building with a shared wall, no windows.
Harlequin Lake (South)	1962	A-frame	North and South cabins are one building with a shared wall, no windows.
Tanis Mesa (North)	1962	A-frame	North and South cabins are one building with a shared wall, no windows.
Tanis Mesa (South)	1962	A-frame	North and South cabins are one building with a shared wall, no windows.
Alsek River	1963	Hunter	
Lower Dangerous River	1966	Hunter	Reconstructed in 1983.
Italo River	1973	A-frame	Built with 29L 1963 A-frame design.
Middle Dangerous River	1974	Pan Abode	
Square Lake	1974	Pan Abode	
Situk Lake	1977	Pan Abode	
Eagle	1993	Pan Abode	
Raven	1993	Pan Abode	



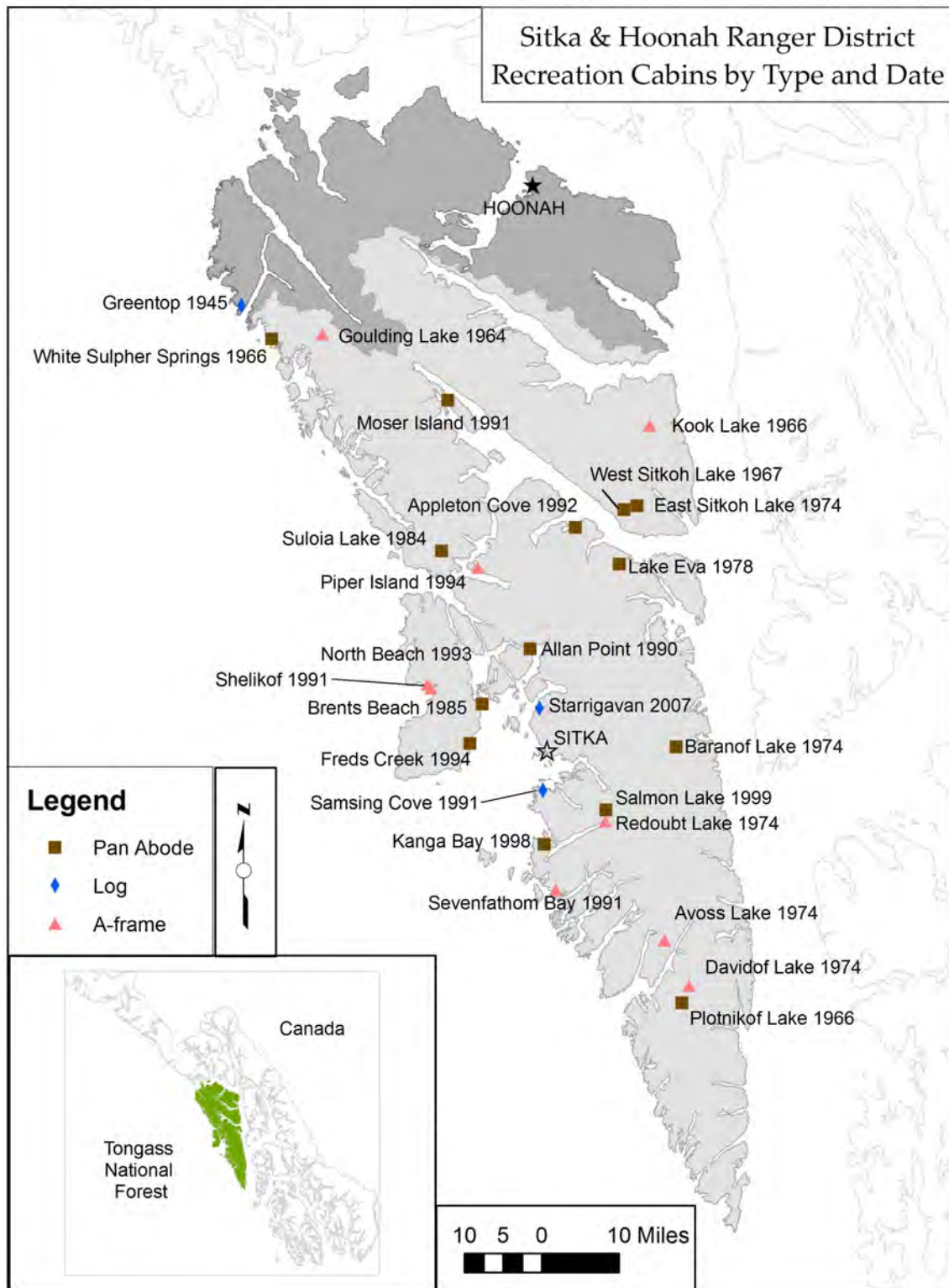


TNF: Juneau Ranger District (JRD) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Type	Information
West Turner Lake	1941	Log	
East Turner Lake	1972	Pan Abode	
Laughton Glacier	1972	Pan Abode	
Katzehin River	1981	Unknown	Not on cabin reservation system, used for emergencies only. Haines and Skagway residents tend to use and maintain the cabin.
John Muir	1981	Log	
Peterson Lake	1985	Pan Abode	
Eagle Glacier	1991	Log	Cabin kit was manufactured by Lodge Logs of Boise, Idaho.
WP&YR Denver Caboose	1993	Caboose	
Berner's Bay	1994	Pan Abode	
Taku Glacier	1996	Pan Abode	Fully accessible cabin.
Windfall Lake	1998	Pan Abode	Manufacturer: Lindal Cedar Homes, FS Design.
Dan Moller	2010	Log	Original vertical log cabin built in 1936 was replaced with 2-story log cabin in 2010.

Notice the Juneau Ranger District did not construct any cabins during the 1960s. This is possibly because all recreation funding went to the construction of the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center at that time. Early plans for the visitor center reveal a large complex with a hotel and golf course. This idea never came to be.

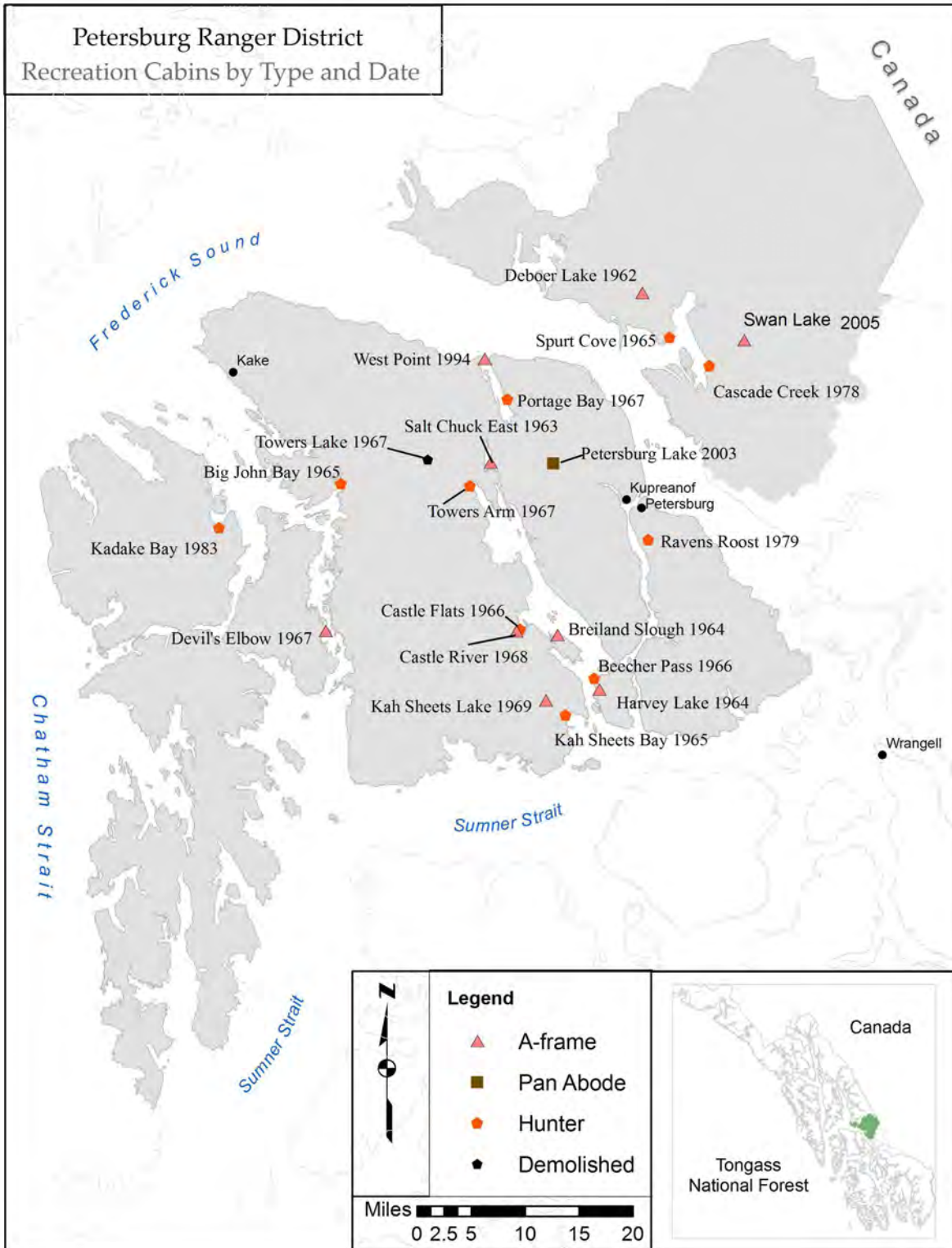


TNF: Admiralty National Monument (ANM) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Type	Information
Distin Lake	1933	Shake	Enclosed CCC trail shelter. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places on 11/2/1995.
Big Shaheen	1935	Log	Built by CCC. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places on 11/2/1995.
Hasselborg Creek	1937	CCC	Enclosed CCC trail shelter. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places on 11/2/1995.
Church Bight	1960	A-frame	
Lake Alexander	1960	Pan Abode	
Lake Kathleen	1960	A-frame	May be the only A-frame remaining with original 1963 design.
Little Shaheen	1960	Pan Abode	
Pybus Bay	1960	A-frame	
Jim's Lake	1962	Pan Abode	Deck and foundation replaced in 2003.
East Florence Lake	1964	A-frame	
North Young Lake	1977	Pan Abode	
South Young Lake	1981	Pan Abode	
Admiralty Cove	1983	Pan Abode	
Sportsman Lake	2003	Hunter	This cabin replaced an A-frame built in 1962.

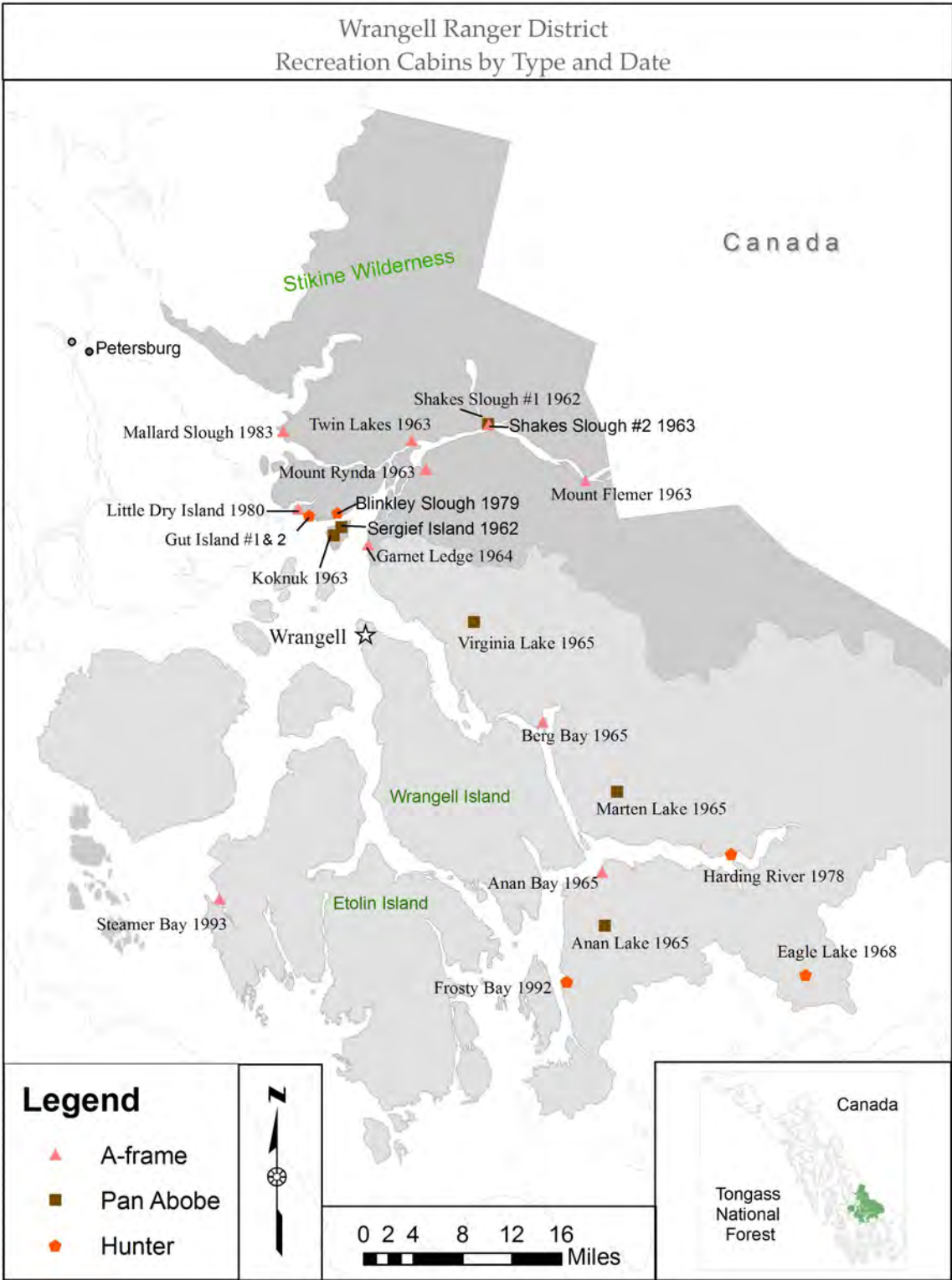


TNF: Sitka Ranger District (SRD) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Style	Information
Goulding Lake	1964	A-frame	New door and roof.
White Sulphur Springs	1966	Pan Abode	
Kook Lake	1966	A-frame	There was a Dingle Johnson cabin on this lake. New deck, door, and roof.
Plotnikof Lake	1966	Pan Abode	New roof.
Sitkoh Lake West	1967	Pan Abode	Deck and roof replaced in 2009.
Avoss Lake	1974	A-frame	Built using 29L 1963 A-frame design. New deck, door, and roof.
Baranof Lake	1974	Pan Abode	New deck and roof.
Davidof Lake	1974	A-frame	Built using 29L 1963 A-frame design.
Redoubt Lake	1974	A-frame	Built using 29L 1963 A-frame design. Shake porch roof added.
Sitkoh Lake East	1974	Pan Abode	New deck and roof.
Lake Eva	1978	Pan Abode	
Suloia Lake	1984	Pan Abode	Unique craftsmanship shown in deck railing.
Brent's Beach	1985	Pan Abode	This cabin was originally an A-frame. It was replaced in 1985 with a Pan Abode.
Allan Point	1990	Pan Abode	2-story Pan Abode built by local residents.
Moser Island	1991	Pan Abode	Built by volunteers.
Samsing Cove	1991	Log	The existing cabin was built and donated to USFS by Roger and Judy Sudnikovich in 1991.
Sevenfathom Bay	1991	A-frame	Built by volunteers.
Shelikof	1991	A-frame (modified)	Large side addition.
Appleton Cove	1992	Pan Abode	
North Beach	1993	A-frame	Built by Coast Guard employees and volunteers led by Kermit Whittemore.
Piper Island	1994	A-frame (modified)	Built by Coast Guard volunteers and Sitka residents. Large side addition.
Kanga Bay	1998	Pan Abode	
Salmon Lake	1999	Pan Abode	
Fred's Creek	2003	Pan Abode	Original A-frame built in 1974 was removed in 2003. A 2-story Pan Abode.
Starrigavan Creek	2007	Log	This cabin replaces existing campsite 6 in the campground. Barrier free.
Greentop (Hoonah RD)	1945	Log	A 2-story log cabin built by a private individual.

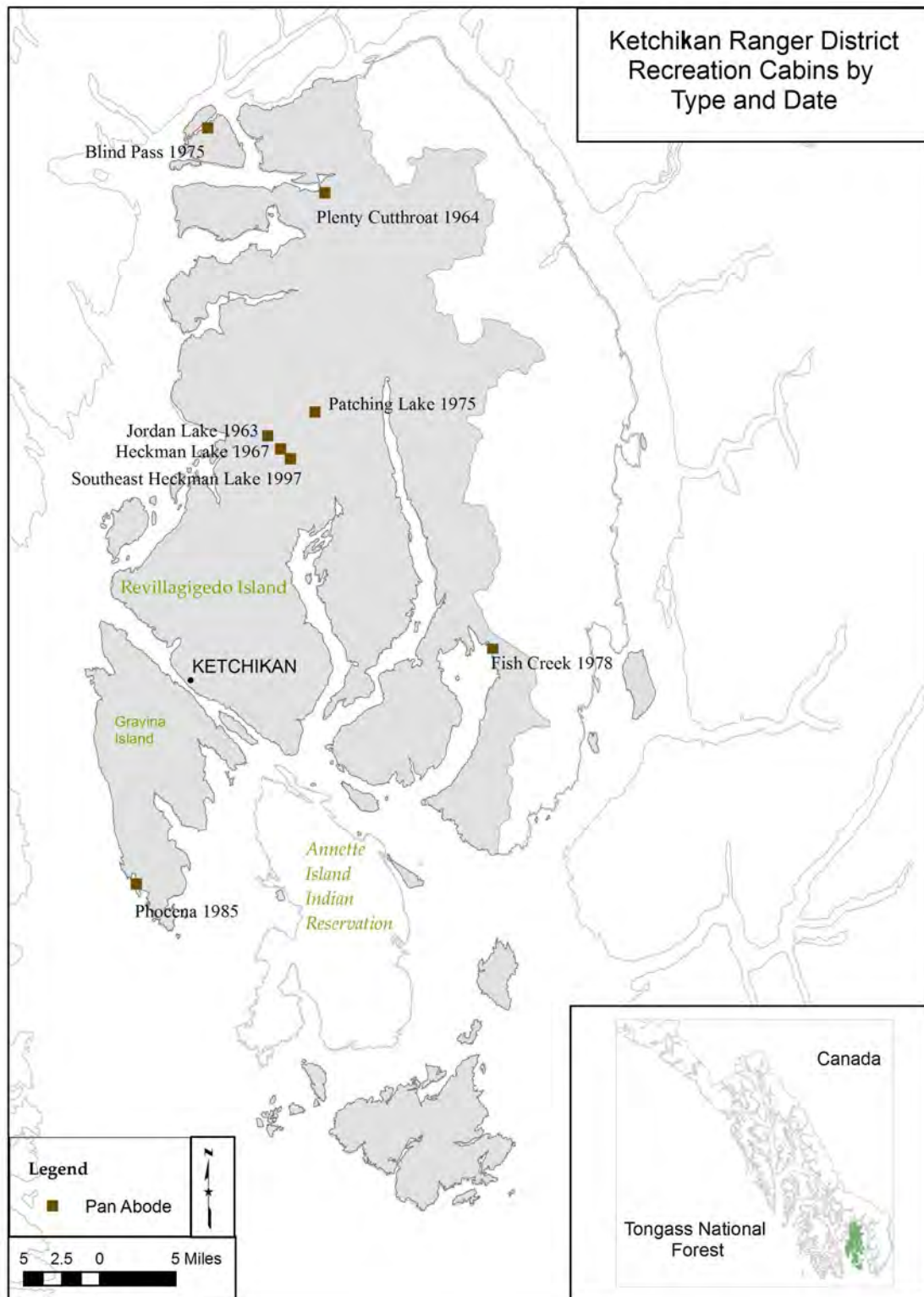




<b>TNF: Petersburg Ranger District (PRD) All cabins as of 2011</b>			
<b>Cabin</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Style</b>	<b>Information</b>
DeBoer Lake	1962	A-frame	Unique design. No longer on the reservation system. Scheduled for removal in 2012.
Salt Chuck East	1963	A-frame (modified)	Moved to current site in 1972 and modified with side addition, front elevation has 1985 design, rear elevation has 1963 design.
Breiland Slough	1964	A-frame	
Harvey Lake	1964	A-frame	
Big John Bay	1965	Hunter	1965 is approximate date. The site of this cabin originally housed a duck hunting cabin belonging to a local Petersburg family, the Goldsteins.
Kah Sheets Bay	1965	Hunter	In 1940s CCC built a shelter in the area. In 1965 the shelter was removed and this cabin was built.
Spurt Cove	1965	Hunter	Was moved from Spurt Lake in 1982, refurbished in 2001. New board and batten siding and covered porch in 2011-2012. Estimated construction date.
Beecher Pass	1966	Hunter	Moved from Fair Island in 1979, due to selection of Fair Island by the State; added 2 skylights in 2006 and covered and extended porch in 2008.
Castle Flats	1966	Hunter	Was originally built by a group of sportsmen in the 1940s. In 1966 the original structure was replaced with a single level, hunter style cabin.
Devil's Elbow	1967	A-frame	
Portage Bay	1967	Hunter	Was originally a Forest Service administrative cabin used for timber sales in North Kupreanof Island. It was converted to recreation cabin in 1985. New board and batten siding in 2012.
Towers Arm	1967	Hunter	
Castle River	1968	A-frame (modified)	Cabin moved from Petersburg Creek in 1982; reconstructed and enlarged with side addition, main entry moved to side, front elevation totally changed.
Kah Sheets Lake	1969	A-frame (modified)	Partially reconstructed 1989, large side addition and covered side deck added.
Cascade Creek	1978	Hunter	Covered porch and added 2 skylights in 2007.
Ravens Roost	1979	Custom	Cabin was designed to allow access through a door in the loft during periods of deep winter snow.
Kadake Bay	1983	Hunter	The original cabin at this site was built ca. 1954 by local Petersburg fishermen who later donated it to the Forest Service. Cabin is planned for removal and replacement with a Pan Abode in 2012.
West Point	1994	A-frame	Barrier free.
Petersburg Lake	2003	Pan Abode	Moved to current site in 1972. Cabin originally built in 1962, replaced with a new cabin in 2003.
Swan Lake	2005	A-frame	This cabin constructed July 2005, replacing an A-frame constructed in 1967.

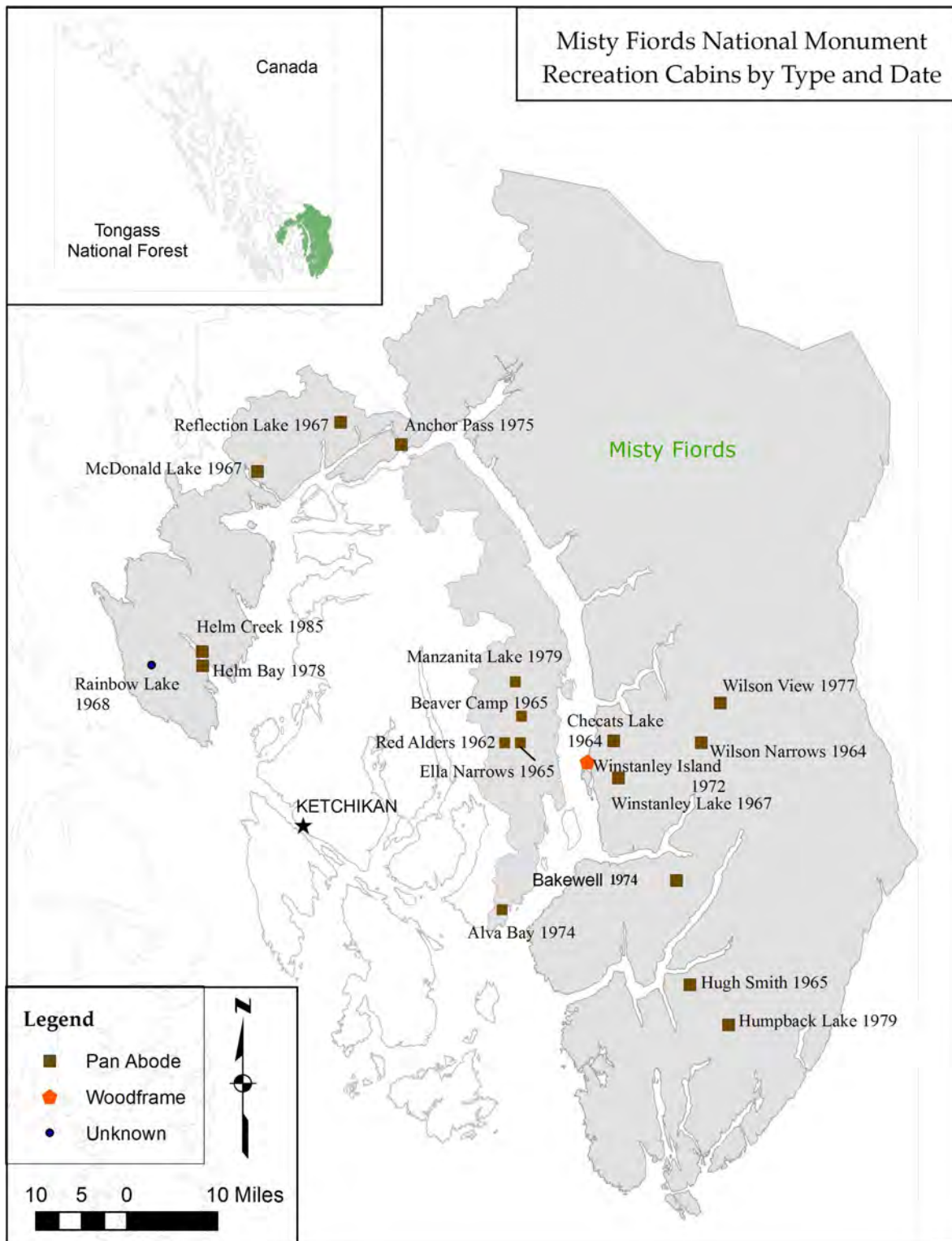


TNF: Wrangell Ranger District (WRD) - All cabins as of 2010			
Cabin Name	Date	Style	Information
Sergief Island	1962	Pan Abode	
Shakes Slough #1	1962	Pan Abode	
Koknuk	1963	Pan Abode	
Mount Flemer	1963	A-frame	
Mount Rynda	1963	A-frame	
Shakes Slough #2	1963	A-frame	
Twin Lakes	1963	A-frame	Cabin was cut in half and moved from Twin Lakes in 1985, and was moved again in 2006 due to river erosion.
Garnet Ledge	1964	A-frame	
Anan Bay	1965	A-frame	
Anan Lake	1965	Hunter	Shutters added to cover windows due to bear damage. Work done in 2004.
Berg Bay	1965	A-frame	
Marten Lake	1965	Pan Abode	
Virginia Lake	1965	Pan Abode	Cabin and site was reconstructed in 1996 to upgrade it to fully accessible, with large side addition.
Gut Island #2	1967	Hunter	
Eagle Lake	1968	Hunter	
Mallard Slough	1968	A-frame (modified)	Large side addition constructed in 1983; entry still on gable end.
Harding River	1978	Hunter	
Binkley Slough	1979	Hunter	
Little Dry Island	1980	A-frame (modified)	Large side addition with side entry.
Gut Island #1	1982	Hunter	
Frosty Bay	1992	Hunter	
Steamer Bay	1993	A-frame (modified)	Large side addition with side entry. Barrier free.
Middle Ridge	2009	Log	Barrier free.

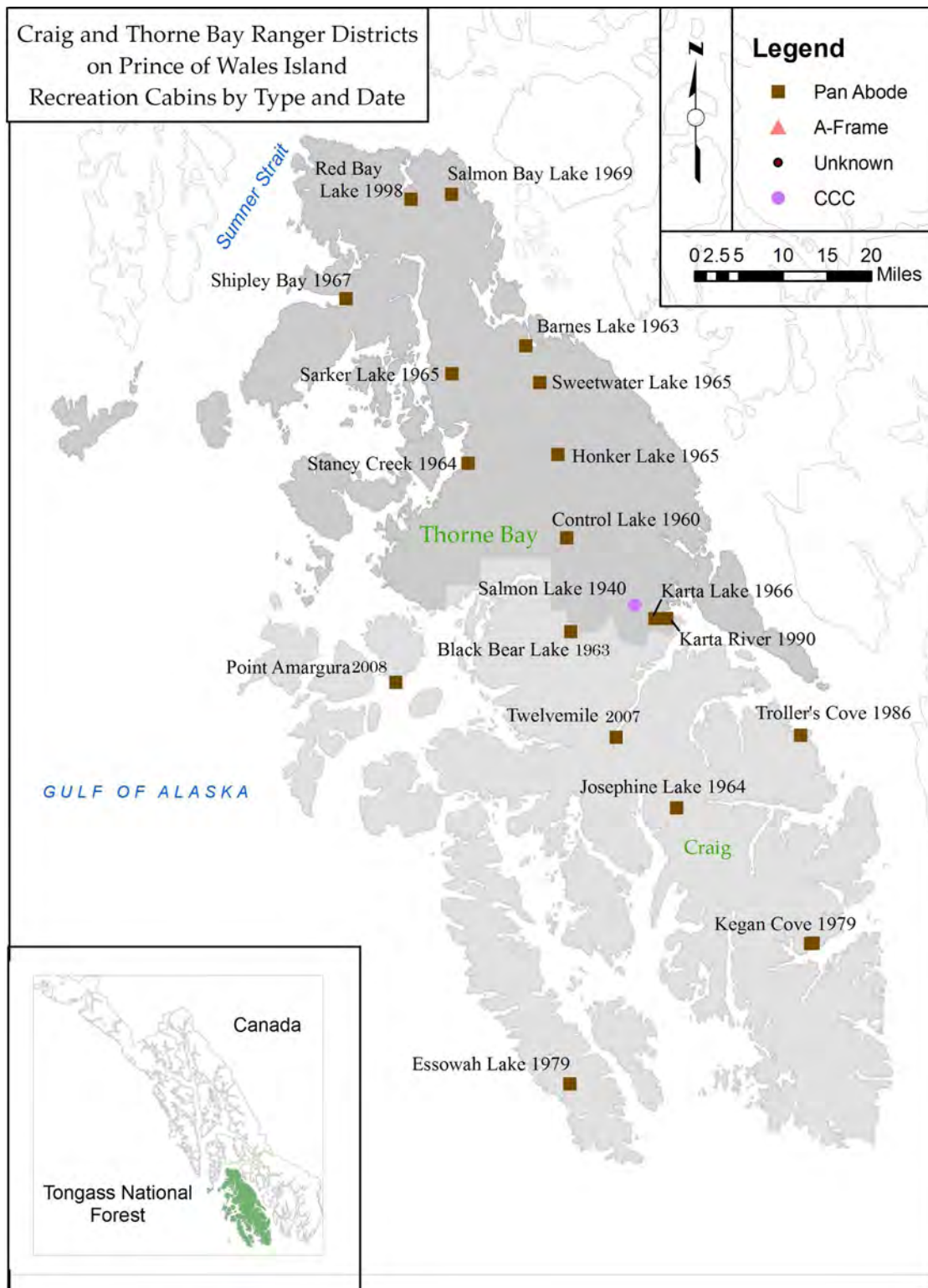




TNF: Ketchikan Ranger District (KRD) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Type	Information
Jordan Lake	1963	Pan Abode	Large covered deck added.
Plenty Cutthroat	1964	Pan Abode	Extended deck.
Heckman Lake	1967	Pan Abode	Extended deck.
Blind Pass	1975	Pan Abode	
Patching Lake	1975	Pan Abode	
Fish Creek	1978	Pan Abode	
Phocena Bay	1985	Pan Abode	Cabin originally built as Naha Cabin in 1973. Moved to current location at Phocena Bay in 1985.
Southeast Heckman	1997	Pan Abode	Barrier free.
Deer Mountain	2008	A-frame	Not on NRRS system (not on map). Replaced A-frame built 1962.



TNF: Misty Fiords National Monument (MFNM) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin name	Date	Type	Information
Red Alders	1962	Pan Abode	This was the site of a Dingle Johnson cabin built in the 1950s.
Big Goat	1964	Pan Abode	Not on NRRS system.
Wilson Narrows	1964	Pan Abode	Large deck added.
Checats Lake	1964	Pan Abode	
Beaver Camp	1965	Pan Abode	Reconstructed in 2001.
Ella Narrows	1965	Pan Abode	Door replaced.
Hugh Smith	1965	Pan Abode	
McDonald Lake	1967	Pan Abode	Large covered deck added. New door.
Reflection Lake	1967	Pan Abode	
Winstanley Lake	1967	Pan Abode	
Rainbow Lake	1968	Pan Abode	Not on NRRS system.
Winstanley Island	1972	Hunter	
Alava Bay	1974	Pan Abode	Reconstructed in 2002 by district employees. New foundation, roof, skylights, interior furnishing, exterior stain and access trail to outhouse.
Bakewell	1974	Pan Abode	
Anchor Pass	1975	Pan Abode	
Wilson View	1977	Pan Abode	
Helm Bay	1978	Pan Abode	Three room cabin. Cabin reconstructed in 2002 by contract with Oregon Woods.
Humpback Lake	1979	Pan Abode	
Manzanita Lake	1979	Pan Abode	
Helm Creek	1985	Pan Abode	



TNF: Craig (CRD) and Thorne Bay Ranger District (TBRD) - All cabins as of 2011			
Cabin Name	Date	Type	Remarks
Salmon Lake	1940	Shake	CCC cabin with structural issues. Post and beam structure with shake siding. Rehabilitated in 1995.
Control Lake	1960	Pan Abode	Outside of cabin painted by YCC crew in 2006. New roof, interior flooring, ext. doors, propane heater, fire ring and windows installed in 2008. Former Ranger District office.
Black Bear Lake	1963	Pan Abode	Cabin was relocated in 1979. Side entry design with large open deck added 1999. New roof and skylight.
Barnes Lake	1963	Pan Abode	Large covered deck added. New roof and skylights 1995.
McGilvery Creek	1964	Pan Abode	Poor cabin structural integrity. Not on NRRS (not on map).
Josephine Lake	1964	Pan Abode	Replaced roof skylights 2000; replaced deck 2003.
Staney Creek	1964	Pan Abode	Foundation/porch replaced 2002. Side entry. Large covered deck added 2008. Roof has 1 skylight.
Sarkar Lake	1965	Pan Abode	Cabin moved > 1 mile 1990. New large covered deck 2001.
Honker Lake	1965	Pan Abode	Large covered deck added and large skylights.
Sweetwater Lake	1965	Pan Abode	Large covered deck added. New roof 1997. 1 large skylight. Moved back 15 feet.
Karta Lake	1966	Pan Abode	Wilderness cabin, very popular for fishing. Large skylights.
Kegan Creek	1967	Pan Abode	Foundation and deck replaced 2001. Located next to Kegan Cove Cabin. Large covered deck added. Large skylights.
Shipley Bay	1967	Pan Abode	Large covered deck added. 1992. Roof replaced 2004.
Salmon Bay Lake	1969	Pan Abode	New deck, roof with skylights 2004. Setting altered by nearby logging.
Troller's Cove	1986	Pan Abode	New wood stove 2007.
Karta River	1990	Pan Abode	This cabin was originally constructed in 1968 and replaced in 1990.
Red Bay Lake	1998	Pan Abode	This cabin was originally constructed in 1953. It was relocated and replaced in 1998. It is a 2-story loft style cabin.
Twelvemile	2007	Pan Abode	Mitigation for Recreation Opportunities lost due to Black Bear Hydroelectric. \$200,000.00 provided by AP&T.
Point Amargura	2008	Pan Abode	Constructed in 2008. 2-story. Replaced unique A-frame cabin originally built in 1963.
Kegan Cove	2010	Pan Abode	Replaced Pan Abode built in 1979.







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